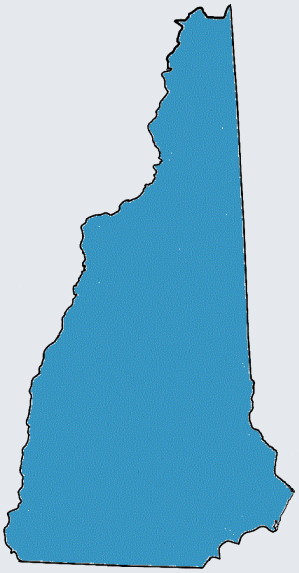


NH Chess Journal

Spring 2017

Table of Contents

Queen City Tornado 1

NH Scholastic Individual Championships 9

NH Closed 12

NH Quick Chess Championship 16

NH Scholastic Team Championships 22

Upcoming Events 26

Spot The Tactic Solutions 27

Officers and Committees of the NHCA 28

Queen City Tornado

Manchester – March 4, 2017

The 2017 Queen City Tornado, a Game in 60 event held in Manchester, NH on March 4th, saw a clear winner in the Open section as Jerry Li of Massachusetts swept the field with a 4-0 result. Second place was shared, at 3 out of 4, by Christopher Wood, John Elmore, and Eric Feng. In the U1800 section, Michael Meehan, Pascal Bakker, and Sai Sneha Yerra all scored 3.5 out of 4 to crowd the podium. The U1400 saw another clean sweep as Andre Bakker took top honors, while Ranjan Dey, Ansh Yadawad, and John Curl-Larson all tied for second with 3 out of 4.

Atkocaitis,Thomas (1941) - Wood,Chris (2113) [A48]

Queen City Tornado (1), 04.03.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.Bf4 Bg7 4.e3 0-0 5.Be2 d6 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.h3 b6 8.c3 Bb7 9.Bh2 c5 10.Nbd2 a6 11.a4 Ra7 12.Bd3 Qa8 13.Qe2 Ne4 14.Nxe4 Bxe4 15.Bxe4 Qxe4 16.Rfd1 Rc8 17.Ng5 Qf5 18.f4 c4 (18…cxd4 19.exd4 Nf6=) 19.e4 Qa5 20.e5 dxe5 21.fxe5 h6 22.Nxf7! Kxf7 23.e6+ Kg8 24.exd7 Rd8 25.Qxc4+ Kh7 26.b4 Qg5 27.Bc7 Rxd7 28.Bxb6 Rab7 29.Bc5 Rd5 30.Re1 Rf5 31.Qxa6 Rc7 32.Qd3 e6 33.Rf1 Rcf7 34.Rxf5 Rxf5 35.a5 e5 36.a6 Qf4 37.Rf1 Qg3 38.Qxg3 1-0

Hess,Carl (1849) - Ames,Jeff (2036) [B22]

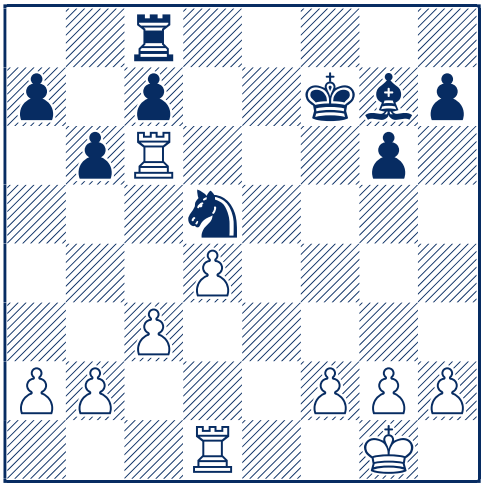
Queen City Tornado (1), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Qa5 3.Bd3 Nc6 4.Bc2 Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.h3 g6 7.Be3 e5 8.Nd2 Bg7 9.Nc4 Qc7 10.Qd2 0-0 11.Bh6 b5 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Ne3 Rb8 14.Bb3 Na5 15.Bd5 c4 16.d4 Be6 17.Bxe6 fxe6 18.f3 Nh5 19.Ne2 Nf4 20.Nxf4 exf4 21.Nc2 Nb7 22.0-0 Qe7 23.Kh1 Nd8 24.Rad1 g5 25.Qf2 h5 26.g3 Kf7 27.gxf4 gxf4 28.Rg1 Ke8 29.Rg2 Nf7 30.Kh2 a5 31.Qd2 Qh4 32.Qf2 Qxf2 33.Rxf2 Rg8 34.Rg1 Ke7 35.Rxg8 Rxg8 36.Rg2 Rb8 37.a3 Kf6 38.h4 Rh8 39.Kh3 e5 40.Rg1 Rb8 41.Kg2 Rg8+ 42.Kf2 Rxg1 43.Kxg1 Ke7 44.a4 b4 45.cxb4 exd4 46.Nxd4 axb4 47.Nc6+ Kd7 48.Nxb4 Ne5 49.Kf2 Ng6 50.Nd5 Kc6 51.Ke2 Kb7 52.Kd1 Nxh4 53.Nxf4 Nxf3 54.Nxh5 Kb6 55.Kc2 Ka5 56.Nf6 Ng5 57.b3 cxb3+ 58.Kxb3 Ne6 59.Ne8 Nc5+ 60.Kc4 Nxe4 61.Nxd6 ½-½

Elmore,John (2085) - French,Al (1938) [C13]

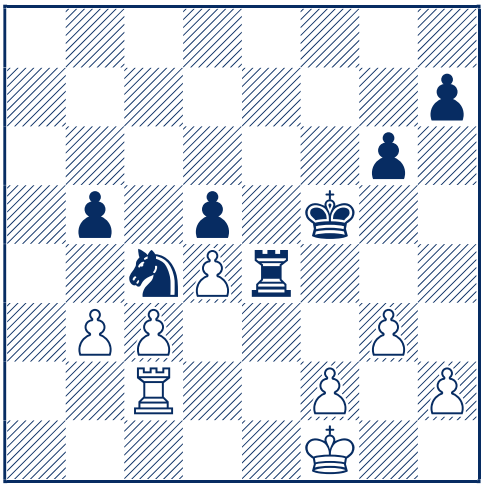
Queen City Tornado (1), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Bg5 Be7 6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 b6 8.Bd3 Bb7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Nd7 11.Qe2 g6 12.Rad1 Bg7 13.Bc4 Nf6 14.Neg5 Bd5 15.Ne5 Bxc4 16.Qxc4 Nd5 17.Ngxf7 Rxf7 18.Nxf7 Kxf7 19.Qc6 Qe8 20.Rxe6 Qxc6 21.Rxc6 Rc8 22.c3



(black to move)

23…Bf8! (The c6 rook is getting short on squares.) 23.Re1 Bd6 24.g3 Ne7 25.Rxd6 cxd6 26.Kg2 Re8 27.Re2 Nf5 28.Rd2 d5 29.Rc2 Nd6 30.Rd2 b5 31.Rc2 a5 32.Kf1 Kf6 33.Rd2 Re4 34.Rc2 a4 35.Rc1 Nc4 36.Rc2 Kf5 37.b3 axb3 38.axb3



(black to move)

38…Na5?! (Black has made good progress, but this lets White activate his rook and trade off more of the queenside pawns. 38…Nd6 or even 38…Na3 are better. After the latter, play might proceed 39.Rc1 b4! undermining the pawns or 39.Ra2 Nb1 40.Rc2 Re7 41.h4 Rc7) 39.Ra2 Nxb3 (39…Nb7 40.Ra7 Re7 keeps an advantage. Black will reroute the knight to d6 after …Kf6) 40.Rb2 Nc1 41.Rxb5 Kg4?! (Better to defend d5 with 41…Ke6 in order to at least get the c-pawn in exchange after 42.Rb6+ Kf7 43.Rb5 Na2. Now, the position is just equal as White's connected passers provide sufficient compensation for the knight.) 42.Rxd5 Nd3 43.Kg2 (Threatening mate in one by f- or h-pawn.) 43…Ne1+ 44.Kf1 Kf3 (Black could bail out with a perpetual via 44…Nf3 since 45.Kg2 is forced to avoid being mated in return with …Re1+ Kg2 Rg1#) 45.Re5 (Well spotted; the rook cannot be taken since the knight would be unable to catch the e-pawn.) 45…Nd3 46.Rxe4 Kxe4 47.Ke2 Nb2 48.f3+ Kd5 49.Ke3 Na4 (Even the risky-looking 49…Kc4 50.Ke4 Kxc3 holds the draw: 51.d5 Nc4 52.f4 Nb6 53.d6 Kc4 54.Ke5 Kc5 55.Ke6 Kc6 etc.) 50.Kd3 Nb6 51.f4 Nc4 52.g4 Nd6 53.h3 h6 54.h4 h5 55.f5 hxg4 56.fxg6 Nf5 57.h5 g3 58.Ke2 Ke6 59.Kf3 Kf6 60.d5 g2 61.Kxg2 Ne3+ 62.Kf3 Nxd5 63.c4 Ne7?? (Black has been defending solidly, but chess can be a cruel game. 63…Nb6! rounds up the outsider and splits the point after 64.c5 Nd7 65.c6 Ne5+ 66.Kf4 Nxb6) 64.Kf4 Nc6 65.Ke4 Ne7 66.c5 Ke6 67.g7 Kf6 68.h6 Kg6 69.Ke5 Kf7 70.Kd6 Nf5+ 1-0

Kochman,David (1943) - Wezalis,Robert (1765) [B90]

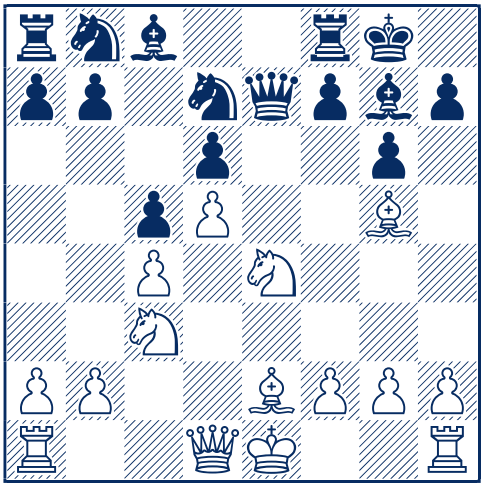
Queen City Tornado (1), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.Nf3 g6 8.h3 Bg7 9.Be3 b5 10.Qd2 Be6 11.Bh6 0-0 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.0-0 Qd7 14.Ng5 h6 15.Nxe6+ fxe6 16.Rae1 e5 17.Re3 Nh5 18.Nd5 Nf4 19.Nb6 Qe6 20.Nxa8 Rxa8 21.a3 Rf8 22.a4 Nd4 23.axb5 axb5 24.c3 Nxh3+ 25.Rxh3 Qxh3 26.cxd4 Qd7 27.dxe5 dxe5 28.Rd1 Rd8 29.Qe2 b4 30.Bc2 Qc7 31.Rxd8 Qxd8 32.Qd3 Qc7 33.Kh2 g5 34.Qd2 Kf6 35.Bb3 Qd6 36.Qd5 Qxd5 37.Bxd5 g4 38.Kg3 Kg5 39.f3 h5 40.fxg4 hxg4 41.Be6 1-0

Messenger,Bob (1819) - Schalk,Alan (2000) [E70]

Queen City Tornado (1), 04.03.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2 0-0 6.Ng3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.exd5 Nfd7 10.Nge4 Qe7 11.Bg5?



Spot The Tactic #1 (black to move)

11…f6 12.Bf4 Ne5 13.Qd2 a6 14.0-0 Nbd7 15.Bh6 Nf7 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.f4 f5 18.Ng3 Nf6 19.Bf3 Nh6 20.Rfe1 Qf7 21.h3 Bd7 22.Re2 Rfe8 23.Rd1 Rab8 24.Rxe8 Nxe8 25.Qe2 Ng8 26.a4 Nc7 27.a5 Qf6 28.Qd2 b5 29.axb6 Rxb6 30.Nge2 Rb4 0-1 (remaining moves lost to time trouble)

Abate,Tony (1473) - Meehan,Michael (1644) [A16]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (1), 04.03.2017

1.c4 d5 2.cxd5 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nxd5 4.d4 Nxc3 5.bxc3 Bf5 6.Ba3 Nd7 7.Nf3 e6 8.Bxf8 Nxf8 9.e3 c6 10.Be2 Nd7 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nd2 Nf6 13.f3 Nd5 14.e4 Nxc3 15.Qe1 Qxd4+ 16.Kh1 Bg6 17.Nb3 Qe3 18.Bc4 Qxe1 19.Rfxe1 Rfd8 20.Re3 Rd1+ 21.Rxd1 Nxd1 22.Re1 Rd8 23.Be2 Nc3 24.h3 Nxa2 25.Bc4 b5 26.Bf1 Nb4 27.Ra1 Rd7 28.Nc5 Rc7 29.Rb1 a5 30.Ra1 a4 31.Nxa4 Kf8 32.Nb2 Ke7 33.Rc1 Kd7 34.Rd1+ Kc8 35.Nd3 Nxd3 36.Rxd3 Kb7 37.Rb3 Kb6 0-1

Havener,Jason (1630) - McShane,Michael (1388) [A00]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (1), 04.03.2017

1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 Bxb4 3.Bxe5 Nc6? (3…Nf6) 4.Bxg7 Qg5 5.Bxh8 f6 6.Nf3 Qg6 7.c3 Be7 8.d4 d5 9.e3 Bg4 10.Be2 0-0-0 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Nh6 13.Qb3 Qf7 14.Nd2 f5 15.Be5 Na5 16.Qb5 b6 17.Qa6+ Kb8 18.Rb1 Nb7 19.a4 Bf6 20.Bf4 Ng8 21.a5 Ka8 22.axb6 cxb6 23.Rxb6 Rd7 24.0-0 Bd8 25.Rb2 Ne7 26.Ra1 Nc8 27.Qc6 Bc7 28.Qxb7# 1-0

Kelley,Nathan (1687) - Walton Jr.,Robert (1518) [B92]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (1), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 b5 7.a3 Bb7 8.Qd3 Nbd7 9.Nb3 Rc8 10.f4 e6 11.Be3 Be7 12.Bf3 Nc5 13.Nxc5 dxc5 14.0-0 0-0 15.Rf2 c4 16.Qe2 Qc7 17.Rd1 h6 18.e5 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Nd7 20.Ne4 Nc5 21.Nd6 Rcd8 22.Rfd2 f6 23.Qg4 f5 24.Qf3 Ne4 25.Nxe4 fxe4 26.Qxe4 Rxd2 27.Rxd2 c3 28.bxc3 Qxc3 29.Qd3 Qa1+ 30.Rd1 Qb2 31.Qd7 Qxc2 32.Qxe6+ Rf7 33.Rc1 Qe2 34.Qb3 Kh7 35.h3 Bh4 36.Qc2+ Qxc2 37.Rxc2 Bg3 38.e6 Rf6 39.Rc6 Rf5 40.e7 Rd5 41.Kf1 Rd1+ 42.Ke2 Re1+ 43.Kf3 Bxf4 44.Kxf4 1-0

DeBenedictis,Giovanni (860) - Perez,Rafael (1165) [A40]

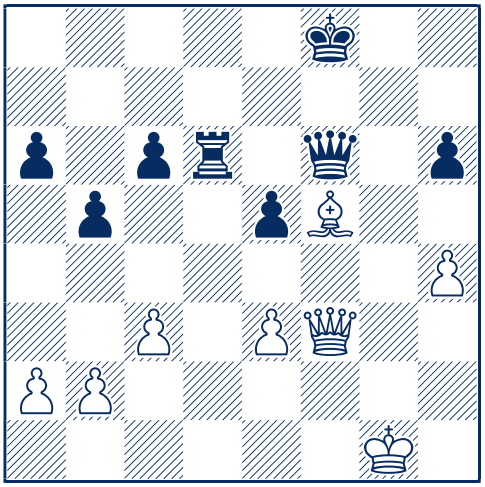
Queen City Tornado, U1400 (1), 04.03.2017

1.d4 b5 2.e4 Bb7 3.Nc3 b4 4.Nce2 Bxe4 5.Bg5 Nf6 6.Nf4 g6 7.Bxf6 exf6 8.Bc4 d5 9.Qe2 Be7 10.Bb3 0-0 11.Nf3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Re8 13.0-0 c6 14.Nd3 Nd7 15.Ba4 Qc7 16.h3 Nb6 17.Bb3 a5 18.c3 a4 19.Bd1 Nc4 20.Qg4 f5 21.Qf4 Bd6 22.Qh4 Re4 23.Qg5 f4 24.Bf3 Be7 25.Qg4 h5 26.Bxe4 hxg4 27.Bxd5 cxd5 28.hxg4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Kg7 30.Rfe1 Rh8 31.f3 Ne3 32.Re2 Qxc3 0-1

Ames,Jeff (2036) - Niler,Eric (1904) [C89]

Queen City Tornado (2), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 b5 6.Bb3 Be7 7.Re1 0-0 8.c3 d5 9.exd5 Nxd5 10.Nxe5 Nxe5 11.Rxe5 c6 12.d3 Bd6 13.Re1 Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Re4 Nf6 16.Rh4 Qf5 17.Qf1 g5 18.Rh6 Kg7 19.Rxf6 Qxf6 20.Nd2 Bf5 21.Ne4 Bxe4 22.dxe4 Bc5 23.Qe2 Rfe8 24.Bc2 Rad8 25.Be3 Bxe3 26.fxe3 Qe5 27.Rf1 f6 28.Rf5 Qe7 29.e5 fxe5 30.Qh5 h6 31.Rf2 Rd6 32.h4 Rf8 33.Rxf8 Kxf8 34.Qf3+ Qf6 35.Bf5 gxh4 36.gxh4



(black to move)

36…Qxh4?? (Black must have thought White had no good discoveries. Alas, he does, and it's all downhill from here. Instead, 36…Rd2 37.b4 Rxa2 continues to prosecute the advantage.) 37.Be6+! Ke7 38.Qf7+ Kd8 39.Qf8+ Kc7 40.Qc8+ Kb6 41.Qb8+ Ka5 42.Qc7+ 1-0 (It's mate next move.)

Wood,Chris (2113) - Taggart,James (1700) [D07]

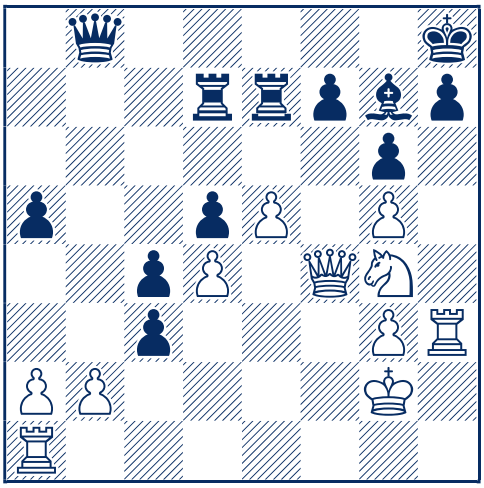
Queen City Tornado (2), 04.03.2017

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nc6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.cxd5 Bxf3 5.gxf3 Qxd5 6.e3 e5 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Bxc3 9.bxc3 Qd6 10.Rb1 Rb8 11.Bg2 Nge7 12.f4 exf4 13.e4 Ng6 14.h4 Qf6 15.e5 Qe6 16.Qe2 0-0 17.d5 Qf5 18.Be4 f3 19.Bxf5 fxe2 20.dxc6 bxc6 21.f4 Rxb1+ 22.Bxb1 Rb8 23.Be4 Rb2 24.h5 Ne7 25.Kxe2 Nd5 26.Kd3 Rxa2 27.h6 g6 28.Bxd5 cxd5 29.Rb1 Kf8 30.Rb7 c6 31.Be3 Rh2 32.Bc5+ Ke8 33.Re7+ Kd8 34.Rxf7 Rxh6 35.e6 g5 36.Rf8+ Kc7 37.e7 1-0

French,Al (1938) - Dudley,Ian (1947) [D00]

Queen City Tornado (2), 04.03.2017

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 e6 4.Bd3 Nbd7 5.Nd2 Be7 6.h3 c5 7.c3 c4 8.Bc2 Nf8 9.Bh2 b5 10.Ngf3 Ng6 11.0-0 a5 12.Qe2 Ba6 13.e4 0-0 14.e5 Nd7 15.Bg3 Nb6 16.Nh2 b4 17.f4 Nh4 18.Bxh4 Bxh4 19.Ndf3 Be7 20.f5 exf5 21.Bxf5 g6 22.Bc2 Bc8 (22…b3 23.axb3 cxb3 24.Bd3 Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Nc4 reduces White's attacking chances and starts counterplay on the queenside.) 23.Qe3 Be6 24.Kh1 Re8 25.Ng4 Bxg4 26.hxg4 Bf8 27.Qf4 Ra7 28.g5 Bg7 (28…Be7 looks ugly, but it keeps White's knight tied to the defense of g5.) 29.Nh2 Ree7 30.Ng4 Nd7 31.Rf3 Qe8 32.Ba4 Kh8 33.Rh3 Qa8 34.Bxd7 Raxd7 35.g3 Qb8 36.Kg2 bxc3



(white to move)

37.Nf6 Bxf6 38.Qxf6+ Kg8 39.Rxh7! Qxb2+ 40.Kf3 1-0

Zhao,Derek (1918) - Messenger,Bob (1819) [B04]

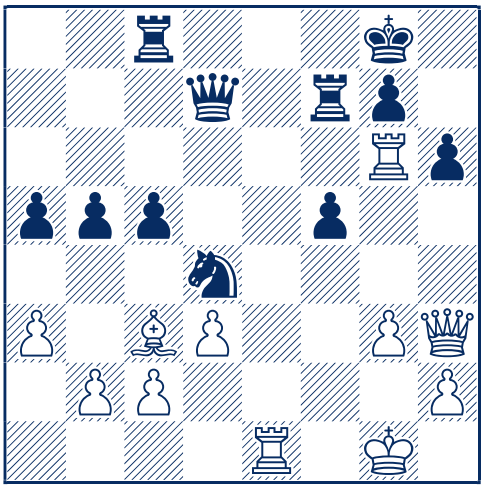
Queen City Tornado (2), 04.03.2017

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 dxe5 5.Nxe5 c6 6.Bc4 Nd7 7.0-0 Nxe5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.Bb3 g6 10.Qe2 Bg7 11.Bd2 0-0 12.Nc3 Nxc3 13.Bxc3 Bxb3 14.axb3 e6 15.Qe3 b6 16.h3 Qc7 17.Rfd1 Rfd8 18.f4 Bf8 19.Qg3 Bc5+ 20.Kh1 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Rd8 22.Qf3 Rd5 23.Rxd5 cxd5 24.Qd3 Qc8 25.Bd2 a5 26.c3 Qf8 27.Be3 Bxe3 28.Qxe3 Qc5 0-1 (remaining moves lost to time trouble)

Hoyt,David (1551) - Kelley,Nathan (1687) [B24]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (2), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 d6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 Nc6 5.Nge2 e5 6.d3 Be7 7.0-0 Be6 8.Rb1 Qd7 9.a3 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.f4 exf4 12.Nxf4 Nxf4 13.Bxf4 Nd4 14.Re1 Bg4 15.Qd2 0-0 16.Ne4 Bf3 17.Re3 Bxg2 18.Qxg2 f5 19.Ng5 h6 20.Nf3 Bf6 21.Ne5 Bxe5 22.Bxe5 Nc6 23.Bc3 a5 24.Rbe1 b5 25.Re6 Rac8 26.Rg6 Rf7 27.Qh3 Nd4



(white to move)

28.Rf1 (28.Qxh6 b4 29.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 30.Kh1 offers strong resistance, e.g., 30…Qxb2 31.Rg5 bxa3 32.Qe6 Qb7+ [32…Rcf8 33.Rxf5 a2 34.Rxf7 Rxf7 35.Rf1=] 33.Kg1 Rc6 34.Qc4 =/+ or 30…Qf2 31.Qe3 Qxc2 32.Rxg7+!! and perpetual check follows.) 28…Ne2+ 29.Kf2 Nxc3 30.bxc3 Kh7 31.Rb6 b4 32.Kg1 Re8 33.cxb4 cxb4 34.axb4 Qd4+ 35.Kh1 Qxb6 36.Rxf5 Re1+ 37.Kg2 Qg1+ 38.Kf3 Rf1+ 0-1

Straus,Kenneth (1633) - McShane,Michael (1388) [A25]

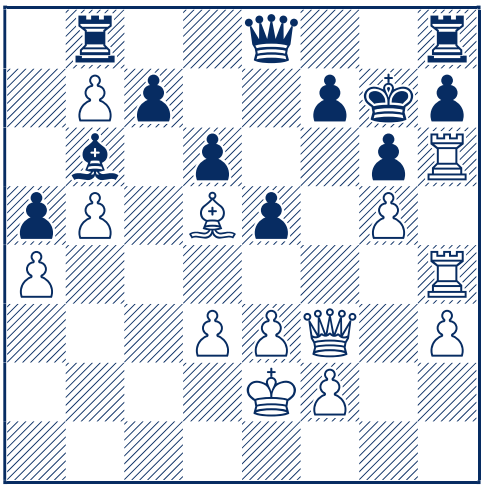
Queen City Tornado, U1800 (2), 04.03.2017

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.g3 Nc6 4.Bg2 Bc5 5.e3 0-0 6.Nge2 Re8 7.0-0 d6 8.d4 exd4 9.exd4 Bb6 10.Bg5 Bf5 11.Nd5 Be4 12.Nxf6+ gxf6 13.Be3 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 Qe7 15.Nc3 Qd7 16.Nd5 Qd8 17.Qg4+ Kh8 18.Qh4 Re6 19.Nxb6 axb6 20.d5 Re5? (20…Rxe3 21.fxe3 [21.dxc6 Rxe5] 21…Ne5 limits the material deficit to an exchange instead of the full piece.) 21.dxc6 bxc6 22.Bd4 Re6 23.Rfe1 Kg7 24.Qg4+ Kf8 25.Rxe6 fxe6 26.Qxe6 Qe7 27.Qxf6+ Qxf6 28.Bxf6 Kf7 29.Bc3 d5 30.cxd5 cxd5 31.a3 c5 32.Be5 b5 33.Bd6 c4 34.Bc5 Rc8 35.Bd4 Ke6 36.Re1+ Kf7 37.f4 Rd8 38.Kf3 Rd7 39.g4 Rd6 40.h4 Ra6 41.Re5 Rd6 42.f5 h6 43.Kf4 1-0

Kilgour,Daniel (1256) - DeBenedictis,Giovanni (860) [A29]

Queen City Tornado, U1400 (2), 04.03.2017

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.g3 Bb4 5.Bg2 d6 6.0-0 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.d3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Qd7 10.g4 0-0 11.Bg5 Qe6 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.cxd5 Qg6 14.dxc6 Qxg5 15.cxb7 Rab8 16.e3 Rfd8 17.Bc6 Qf6 18.Rc1 Qh6 19.Qf3 Qe6 20.Bd5 Qd7 21.Qe4 Bc5 22.Rc4 Qb5 23.b4 Bb6 24.Rfc1 Qd7 25.Qf3 Rf8 26.Bc6 Qe7 27.a4 a5 28.b5 Rfd8 29.Bd5 Rf8 30.Qg3 Kh8 31.g5 Kg8 32.Rh4 g6 33.Rh6 Kg7 34.Qh4 Rh8 35.Qg3 Qd7 36.Rc4 Qe7 37.Rch4 Qd8 38.Kf1 Qe7 39.Qg4 Qe8 40.Qf3 Qd7? (40…Qe7 guarding the f6-square is required.) 41.Ke2? (41.Qf6+) 41…Qe8? (41…Qe7)



(white to move)

42.Qf6+ Kg8 43.Qxh8+! Kxh8 44.Rxh7+ Kg8 45.Rh8+ Kg7 46.R4h7# 1-0

Ames,Jeff (2036) - Atkocaitis,Tom (1941) [B76]

Queen City Tornado (3), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 Nc6 8.Qd2 Bd7 9.0-0-0 0-0 10.g4 Ne5 11.Bh6 Rc8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.h4 h5 14.gxh5 Nxh5 15.f4 Nc4 16.Bxc4 Rxc4 17.Rdg1 Qa5 18.Nb3 Qa6 19.f5 Rh8 20.fxg6 f6 21.Qd5 e6 22.Qd2 Bc8 23.Kb1 b5 24.a3 Qc6 25.Na5 Qc5 26.Nxc4 bxc4 27.Rd1 Rd8 28.Rhe1 Qe5 29.Qd4 Qxd4 30.Rxd4 Ba6 31.Red1 Kxg6 32.Rxd6 Rxd6 33.Rxd6 Bb7 34.Rxe6 Kf7 35.Rd6 Bc8 36.Rc6 Be6 37.Rc7+ Kg6 38.Rxa7 Nf4 39.a4 1-0

French,Al (1938) - Wood,Chris (2113) [E61]

Queen City Tornado (3), 04.03.2017

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Be2 d6 5.Nf3 Nbd7 6.0-0 b6 7.c4 0-0 8.Nc3 Bb7 9.Qc2 c5 10.h3 cxd4 11.exd4 d5 12.Ne5 a6 13.Rad1 e6 14.b3 Ra7 15.Bf3 dxc4 16.Bxb7 cxb3 17.Qxb3 Rxb7 18.Nc6 Qa8 19.Rfe1 Re8 20.Ne5 b5 21.Nxd7 Rxd7 22.Be5 Nd5 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Ne2 Rc8 25.Qg3 Rc4 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Ng3 Qd8 28.Ne4 Qc7 29.Qg5 Kg7 30.Ng3 Rd6 31.Ne4 Rdc6 32.Nc5 Qf4 33.Qxf4 Nxf4 34.Kh2 e5 35.Rxe5 Rc2 36.Kg3 Nh5+ 37.Kh2 Rxf2 38.Kg1 Rxa2 39.Rf1 Rd2 40.Re7 Nf6 41.Ra7 Rxd4 42.g4 Rxc5 43.Rxa6 Nxg4! 44.Ra7 Nf6 45.Ra6 Rf5 46.Rb1 b4 47.Rb6 Rg5+ 48.Kf2 Rf4+ 49.Ke2 Nd5 50.Rb7 Nc3+ 0-1

Kochman,David (1943) - Messenger,Bob (1819) [B03]

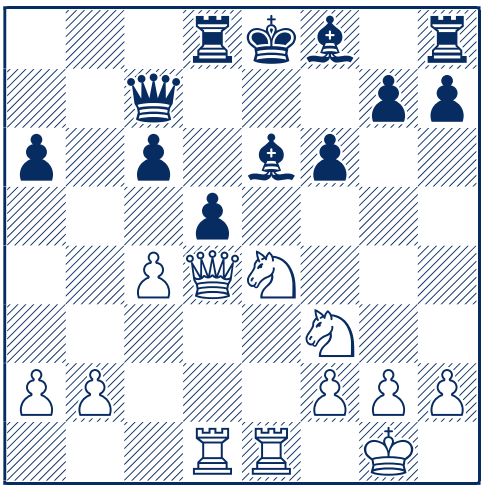
Queen City Tornado (3), 04.03.2017

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.c4 Nb6 5.exd6 exd6 6.Be3 Be7 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Rc1 0-0 9.Ne4 N8d7 10.Bd3 Nf6 11.Qf3 c6 12.Ne2 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 g6 14.Qf3 Bf6 15.0-0 Bg7 16.Rfe1 d5 17.c5 Nd7 18.Nf4 Re8 19.Qg3 Nf6 20.Bd2 Qd7 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Rxe6 Qxe6 23.Re1 Qd7 24.Bg5 Re8 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Be3 Qc8 27.b4 a6 28.Qf4 Ne8 29.a4 Nc7 30.f3 Ne6 31.Qg4 Qe8 32.Kf2 h5 33.Qh4 Qd8 34.Qxd8+ 1-0 (lost on time)

Niler,Eric (1904) - Girish,Arjun (1532) [C68]

Queen City Tornado (3), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.0-0 d6 6.d4 exd4 7.Qxd4 Nf6 (The correspondence game Rogos (2380) – Andersen (2319), ICCF email 2013 continued 7…c5 8.Qe3 Ne7 9.b3 Ng6 10.Bb2 Qd7 11.Re1 f6 12.Nc3 Be7 13.Nd2 0-0 14.Nc4 Bd8 15.Qd2 and White went on to win in 55 moves.) 8.e5 Nd5 9.exd6 cxd6 10.Re1+ Be6 11.c4 Nc7 12.Bf4 Qd7 13.Nc3 f6 14.Rad1 Rd8 15.Ne4 d5 16.Bxc7 Qxc7



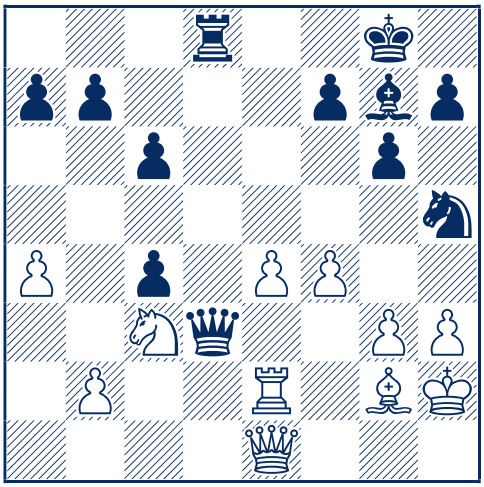
(white to move)

17.Nxf6+! Ke7 (17…gxf6 18.Qxf6 is also winning.) 18.Ng5 Rd6 19.c5 gxf6 20.cxd6+ Kxd6 21.Rxe6+ Kd7 22.Qxf6 Qa5 23.Qf7+ Kd8 1-0 (It's mate next move.)

Wezalis,Robert (1765) - Cote,Joshua (1946) [D78]

Queen City Tornado (3), 04.03.2017

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.d4 0-0 5.c4 d5 6.Nc3 c6 7.0-0 dxc4 8.e4 Bg4 9.Be3 Nbd7 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 e6 12.Rc1 Qa5 13.a4 Rfd8 14.Qc2 Rac8 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.Ne2 e5 17.Bc3 exd4 18.Bxd4 Ne5 19.Bxe5 Qxe5 20.Nc3 Rd4 21.Bg2 Rcd8 22.Rcd1 Qc5 23.Kh2 Rd3 24.Rfe1 Qd4 25.f3 Rd2 26.Rxd2 Qxd2 27.Re2 Qd4 28.f4 Qd3 29.Qc1 Nh5 30.Qe1



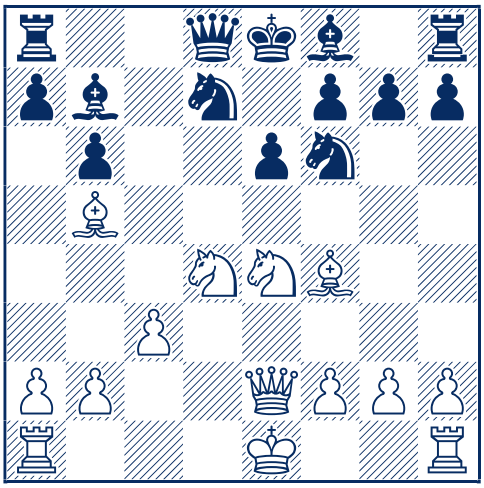
Spot The Tactic #2 (black to move)

30…Bxc3 31.bxc3 Ng7 32.Bf1 b5 33.axb5 cxb5 34.Rb2 Qd7 35.Qf2 Ne6 36.Ra2 Ra8 37.Bg2 a5 38.e5 Ra6 39.Rd2 Qc7 40.Bd5 b4 41.Bxe6 fxe6 42.cxb4 axb4 43.Qe2 Rc6 44.Qd1 b3 45.Rd8+ Kg7 46.Rd7+ Kh6 47.Rxc7 Rxc7 48.Qd8 Rb7 49.Qf6 Rb8 50.g4 b2 51.Qh4+ Kg7 52.Qf6+ ½-½

Kelley,Nathan (1687) - Havener,Jason (1630) [C10]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (3), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Bd3 b6 6.c3 Bb7 7.Qe2 Nbd7 8.Bf4 c5 9.Nf3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nc5? (10…Bxe4 11.Bxe4 Nxe4 12.Qxe4 Bc5=) 11.Bb5+! Ncd7



Spot The Tactic #3 (white to move)

12.Nd6+ Bxd6 13.Bxd6 Ne4 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Qh5+ g6 16.Qe5 Qf6 17.f3 Qxe5 18.Bxe5 Rf8 19.fxe4 0-0-0 20.Bd6 Rf7 21.e5 a6 22.Bc4 Re8 23.Rg1 b5 24.Bb3 Nb6 25.0-0-0 Nc4 26.a4 Rf2 27.Bxc4 bxc4 28.Rd4 Bd5 29.Rd2 Rf7 30.g3 Kb7 31.a5 Kc6 ½-½

Perez,Rafael (1165) - Curl-Larson,John (538) [A00]

Queen City Tornado, U1400 (3), 04.03.2017

1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 d6 3.e3 Nf6 4.Qf3 Be7 5.Bb5+ c6 6.Ba4 Be6 7.h3 Nbd7 8.Nc3 d5 9.b5 Rb8 10.Nge2 0-0 11.Ng3 Qa5 12.bxc6 bxc6 13.Bb3 Ba3 14.Bxa3 Qxa3 15.0-0 Rfe8 16.Qd1 Nc5 17.d4 exd4 18.exd4 Nxb3 19.axb3 Qb4 20.Na4 Re7 21.Nc5 Ne4 22.Na6 Qb6 23.Nxb8 Qxb8 24.Nxe4 Bxh3 25.Ng5 Bf5 26.Re1 Qd8 27.Rxe7 Qxe7 28.Nf3 Qf6 29.Rxa7 h6 30.Ra6 Qg6 31.Ne5 Qg5 32.Ra8+ Kh7 33.Nxf7 1-0

Li,Jerry (2031) - Ames,Jeff (2036) [C55]

Queen City Tornado (4), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.d3 Be7 5.0-0 0-0 6.c3 d6 7.Bb3 Na5 8.Bc2 c5 9.a4 a6 10.Nbd2 b6 11.Re1 Bb7 12.Nf1 Re8 13.Ng3 g6 14.h3 Bf8 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Qd2 Bg7 17.Bh6 Bc8 18.Qg5 Bd7 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Nh4 Ng8 21.Nhf5+ Bxf5 22.exf5 h6 23.Qg4 Nf6 24.Qf3 d5 25.Re2 Qd6 26.Rae1 Nc6 27.h4 Rad8 28.fxg6 fxg6 29.h5 Nxh5 30.Nxh5+ gxh5 31.Qxh5 Qg6 32.Qxg6+ Kxg6 33.d4+ e4 34.dxc5 bxc5 35.f3 Kg5 36.fxe4 d4 37.cxd4 cxd4 38.Bd3 Nb4 39.Rd2 Rc8 (39...Nxd3 40.Rxd3 Re5 gives decent chances to hold.) 40.Red1 Nxd3 41.Rxd3 Rxe4 42.Rxd4 Kf4 43.Rxe4+ Kxe4 44.Rd6 Rb8 45.Rxh6 Rxb2 46.Rxa6 Ra2 1-0 (remaining moves lost to time trouble)

Niler,Eric (1904) - Cote,Joshua (1946) [B22]

Queen City Tornado (4), 04.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.c3 Nf6 3.e5 Nd5 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 d6 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.exd6 Qxd6 8.Nc3 Bf5 9.Nb5 Qd7 10.Bc4 e6 11.0-0 a6 12.Nc3 Nxc3 13.bxc3 Be7 14.a4 0-0 15.Re1 Rfd8 16.Bf4 Bf6 17.a5 Rac8 18.Bd3 Bg4 19.h3 Bh5 20.g4 Bg6 21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Qb3 Qd5 23.Qxd5 Rxd5 24.Bd2 Rxa5 25.Rxa5 Nxa5 26.Rb1 Nc4 27.Rxb7 Nxd2 28.Nxd2 Rxc3 29.Rb8+ Kh7 30.Ne4 Rc6 31.Ra8 g5 32.Nxf6+ gxf6 33.Ra7 Kg6 34.Kg2 f5 35.gxf5+ exf5 36.Kf3 Rc3+ 37.Kg2 Kf6 ½-½

Zhao,Derek (1918) - French,Al (1938) [C10]

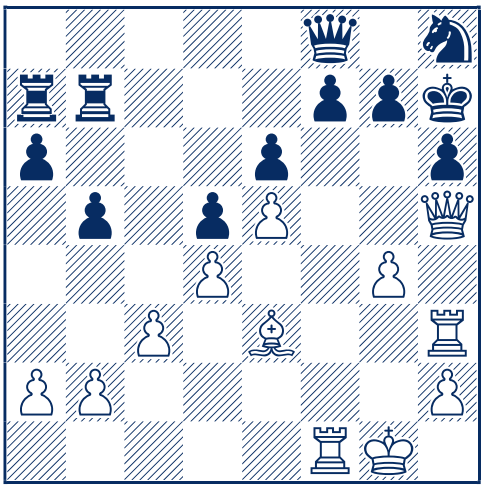
Queen City Tornado (4), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nf6 5.Nxf6+ Qxf6 6.Nf3 h6 7.Bd3 c5 8.c3 Nc6 9.0-0 cxd4 10.cxd4 Bd6 11.Be3 0-0 12.a3 Bd7 13.Qd2 Ne7 14.Rac1 Rac8 15.Be4 Bc6 16.Bxc6 Nxc6 17.Rfd1 Ne7 18.Rxc8 Rxc8 19.Rc1 Rxc1+ 20.Qxc1 g5 21.h3 b6 22.Qc2 Qf5 23.Qxf5 Nxf5 24.a4 f6 25.g4 Ne7 26.Kf1 Kf7 27.Ke2 Nd5 28.Kd3 Ke7 29.Nd2 f5 30.f3 Nxe3 31.Kxe3 Bf4+ 32.Kd3 Bxd2 33.Kxd2 Kd6 34.Kd3 Kd5 35.b3 a6 36.Ke3 fxg4 37.hxg4 e5 38.dxe5 Kxe5 39.b4 b5 40.a5 Kd5 ½-½

Meehan,Michael (1644) - Kelley,Nathan (1687) [A45]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (4), 04.03.2017

1.d4 c5 2.e3 e6 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.Nd2 cxd4 5.exd4 d6 6.f4 Be7 7.Ngf3 a6 8.0-0 b5 9.c3 Bb7 10.Qe2 Nbd7 11.Re1 0-0 12.Ng5 Re8 13.Ndf3 Nf8 14.Qc2 h6 15.Ne4 Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 d5 18.Qd3 Nh7 19.Ne5 Bd6 20.Qg3 (20.Nxf7!) 20...Bxe5 21.fxe5 Kh8 22.Rf1 Ra7 23.Be3 Nf8 24.Rf3 Ng6 25.Raf1 Ree7 (26.Bg5! wins the exchange since 26...hxg5 is too risky, e.g., 27.Qxg5 Kg8 28.Rh3 Qb6 29.Qh5 Re8 30.Qh7+ Kf8 31.Qxg6) 26.Qg4 Reb7 27.Rh3 Kh7 28.Qh5 Qf8 29.g4 Nh8



Spot The Tactic #4 (white to move)

30.Rff3 g6 31.Qxh6+ Qxh6 32.Rxh6+ Kg7 33.Rfh3 (33.Bg5!) 33…Kf8 34.Rxh8+ Ke7 35.R3h7 Kd7 36.Rxf7+ Kc6 37.Rxb7 Rxb7 38.Rg8 b4 39.Bd2 bxc3 40.Bxc3 Kb5 41.Rxg6 Re7 42.h4 Kc4 43.h5 Kd3 44.g5 Ke4 45.Rf6 Rh7 46.h6 a5 47.g6 Rxh6 48.g7 1-0

Havener,Jason (1630) - Bakker,Pascal (1653) [A08]

Queen City Tornado, U1800 (4), 04.03.2017

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 d5 3.Bg2 Bf5 4.0-0 e6 5.d3 c5 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.Nh4 Bg6 8.Nxg6 hxg6 9.e4 d4 10.f4 e5 11.Nf3 Bd6 12.f5 Qd7 13.Bg5 gxf5 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.exf5 0-0-0 16.Nd2 Rh6 17.c3 Rdh8 18.h4 Rh5 19.Be4 Qe8 20.Bxc6 bxc6 21.Qa4 Rg8 22.Kf2 Qd7 23.Ne4 Rxf5+ 24.Ke2 Rxf1 25.Rxf1 Rg6 26.Nxd6+ Qxd6 27.Qxa7 e4 28.Qa8+ Kc7 29.Qa7+ Kc8 30.Qa8+ Kc7 31.Qa7+ ½-½

Bakker,Andre (1196) - Perez,Rafael (1165) [C00]

Queen City Tornado, U1400 (4), 04.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.e5 Qh4 3.Nf3 Qe4+ 4.Be2 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qb4 6.a3 Qe7 7.Nb5 Qd8 8.b4 a6 9.Nbd4 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 b5 11.0-0 Ne7 12.d3 Ng6 13.c4 bxc4 14.dxc4 c5 15.Nc2 Nxe5 16.Bb2 Ng6 17.Qd2 cxb4 18.axb4 Bb7 19.Bc3 Qc7 20.b5 f6 21.Rfd1 Be7 22.Ba5 Qc8 23.b6 0-0 24.Qxd7 Rd8 25.Qa4 Nf4 26.Bf1 e5 27.Ne3 Bc5 28.g3 Bxe3 29.fxe3 Nh3+ 30.Bxh3 Qxh3 31.Qc2 f5 32.c5 1-0

Kanury,Riya (1064) - Barclay,Alan (360) [B01]

Queen City Tornado, U1400 (4), 04.03.2017

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qe6+ 4.Be2 Qd7 5.d4 Nc6 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.Bg5 Nd5 8.Bd2 Nxc3 9.Bxc3 Qd5 10.0-0 e6 11.Re1 Bb4 12.Bxb4 Nxb4 13.a3 Nc6 14.c4 Qd6 15.d5 Ne5 16.Qd4 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 e5 18.Rxe5+ Be6 19.Rg5 0-0-0 20.Qxa7 h6 21.Rxg7 Qe5 22.Qa8+ Kd7 23.dxe6+ Kxe6 24.Bd5+ Kf6 25.Rxf7+ Kg6 26.Qxb7 Rb8 27.Qc6+ Kg5 28.f4+ Qxf4 29.Rxf4 Kxf4 30.Qe6 Rhe8 31.Rf1+ Kg5 32.Qf5+ Kh4 33.Rf4# 1-0

NH Scholastic Individual Championships

Londonderry – March 18, 2017

The Scholastic Individual Championships were held on March 18, 2017 in Londonderry, New Hampshire. Seventy-eight players competed in four sections. The winner of the high school section was Robert Sawdey, whose perfect score entitled him to represent New Hampshire at the Denker Tournament of High School Champions. The top-finishing girl in the high school section was Sai Sneha Yerra. Her excellent result of 3/4 earned her the honor of playing in the National Girls Tournament of Champions. The winner of the junior high section was Finn Garside, and his perfect score made him New Hampshire's nominee for participation in the Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions. The Denker, Barber, and National Girls Tournament of Champions were held from July 29, 2017 to August 1, 2017 in Norfolk, Virginia alongside the US Open.

Vedula,Hrishikesh - Yadawad,Aanya

2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (1), 18.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.e5 Bb4? 4.exf6 Qxf6 5.Be2 0-0 6.0-0 Nc6 7.c3 Ba5 8.b4 Bb6 9.Ba3 Qh6 10.b5 e5 11.Bxf8 Kxf8 12.bxc6 bxc6 13.Nxe5 d6 14.Nxc6 Bb7 15.Ne7 Kxe7 16.Re1 Kf8 17.Bh5 Qg5 1-0 (and White went on to win)

Datta,Koustav - Premus,Duncan

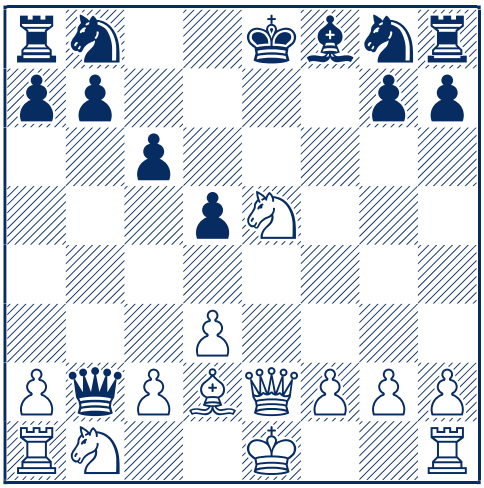
2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (1), 18.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nxd4 5.Qxd4 Nf6 6.h3 b6 7.Bg5 Be7 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Qb4 Bb7 10.f3 Qe7 11.Qxe7+ Bxe7 12.a3 Bf6 13.c3 0-0 14.Bd3 Rfe8 15.0-0 d5 16.Re1 d4 17.cxd4 Bxd4+ 18.Kf1 Bxb2 19.Ra2 Be5 20.Bc4 Red8 21.Rd2 Rxd2 22.Nxd2 a6 23.Bd5 Bxd5 24.exd5 Bc3 25.Re2 h6 26.Ne4 Be5 27.Rf2 Rd8 28.f4 Bd4 29.Rd2 Be3 30.Rd3 Bxf4 31.g3 Bc1 32.d6 cxd6 33.Rxd6 Rxd6 34.Nxd6 Bxa3 35.Nc4 Bc5 36.Ne5 a5 37.Nc6 a4 38.Ne5 a3 39.Nd3 Bd4 40.Nb4 Bc3 41.Nc2 Kf8 42.Ke2 Ke7 43.Kd3 Bf6 44.Kc4 0-1

McManus,Kealin - Horgos,Jamie

2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (1), 18.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ c6 4.Bc4 Be6 5.Bxe6 fxe6 6.d3 d5 7.exd5 exd5 8.Nxe5 Qe7 9.Qe2 Qb4+ 10.Bd2 Qxb2



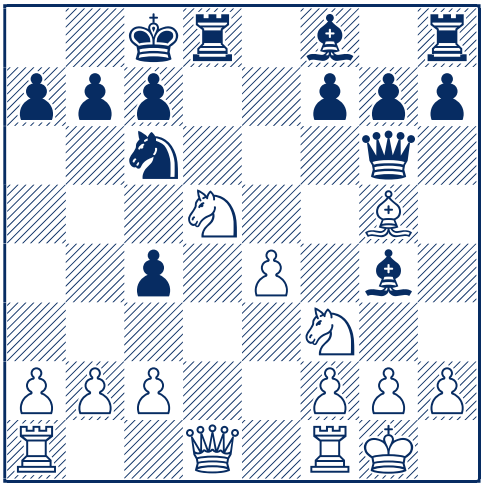
Spot The Tactic #5 (white to move)

11.Qd1 Qxe5+ 12.Be3 Qxa1 13.Nc3 Qxc3+ 14.Bd2 Qe5+ 15.Qe2 Qxe2+ 16.Kxe2 Nd7 17.Kd1 0-0-0 18.Re1 Bd6 19.Bg5 Be7 20.Bf4 Nh6 21.h3 Rhe8 22.g4 Bh4 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.d4 Bxf2 25.g5 Re1+ 26.Kd2 Nf5 27.h4 Bxh4 28.a4 Nxd4 29.c3 Re2+ 30.Kd1 0-1

Horgos,Jamie - Larson,Josh

2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (2), 18.03.2017

1.e3 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d5 6.dxe5 dxc4 7.exf6 Qxf6 8.0-0 Bg4 9.Nd5 Qd6 10.e4 0-0-0 11.Bf4 Qg6 12.Bg5?



Spot The Tactic #6 (black to move)

12…Rd7 13.h3 Qxe4 14.hxg4 Rxd5 15.Nd2 (15.Re1) Qg6 16.Qf3 (16.Be3 h5) Qxg5 17.Qxf7 Bd6 18.Nxc4 Rf8 19.Nxd6+ Rxd6 20.Qxf8+ Rd8 21.Qf5+ Qxf5 22.gxf5 Rd4 23.Rfe1 Kd7 24.Rad1 Rxd1 25.Rxd1+ Ke7 26.g4 Kf6 27.Re1 b5 28.Re6+ Kg5 29.Rxc6 Kxg4 30.f6 gxf6 31.Rxf6 1-0

Archer,Tristan - Rangan,Keshav

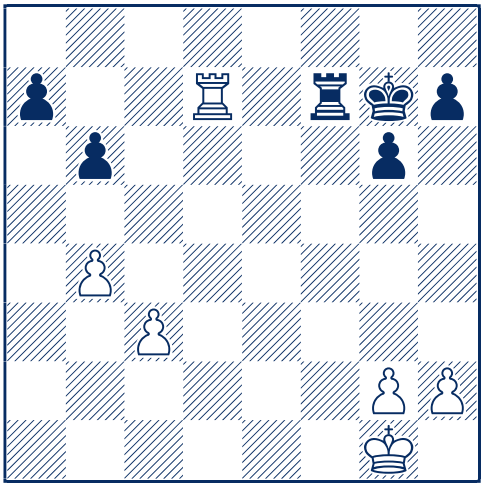
2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (2), 18.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Qf3 Nf6 3.d3 Bb4+ 4.c3 Bc5 5.b4 Bb6 6.Be3 Bxe3 7.Qxe3 d6 8.d4 Nc6 9.Bb5 Bd7 10.d5 Nxb4? 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.cxb4 Qa4 13.a3 Qc2 14.Nc3? (14.Nbd2 keeps everything defended with a big edge for White.) 14…Ng4 15.Qe2? (Better is 15.Qd2 Qxd2+ 16.Kxd2 Nxf2 17.Nf3 Nxh1 18.Rxh1 or the tricky 15.Qg3 Nxf2 16.Nge2 Nxh1 17.Qxg7 0-0-0 18.Kf1) 15…Qxc3+ 16.Qd2 Qxa1+ 17.Qd1 Qxd1+ 18.Kxd1 Nxf2+ 19.Ke2 Nxh1 20.Nf3 0-0 21.g4 g6 22.Nd2 f5 23.gxf5 gxf5 24.exf5 Nf2 25.Kxf2 Rxf5+ 26.Ke3 Kg7 27.Nf3 Rxf3+ 28.Kxf3 c6 29.dxc6 bxc6 30.h4 c5 31.Ke4 cxb4 32.axb4 Rb8 33.Kd5 Rxb4 34.Kxd6 a5 35.Kxe5 a4 36.Kf5 h6 37.h5 a3 38.Ke5 a2 39.Kf5 a1Q 40.Ke6 Rb2 41.Kd5 Qc1 42.Kd4 Rd2+ 43.Ke3 Qe1+ 44.Kf3 Rf2+ 45.Kg3 Qg1+ 46.Kh3 Rh2# 0-1

Horgos,Jamie - Kammila,Akhil

2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (3), 23.03.2017

1.e3 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.exd4 d5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.0-0 Bb4 8.Re1+ Ne7 9.Bd2 Bxc3 10.Bxd7+ Qxd7 11.Bxc3 0-0 12.Ne5 Qd6 13.Qd3 Nc6 14.Nf3 Rfe8 15.Rxe8+ Rxe8 16.Re1 Ne4 17.Qe3 Qe6 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.dxe5 b6 20.f3 c5 21.fxe4 d4 22.Bxd4 cxd4 23.Qxd4 Qxa2 24.Qd7 Rf8 25.Qd4 Qe6 26.Qd5 Re8 27.Qxe6 Rxe6 28.Rd1 g6 29.Rd8+ Kg7 30.Rd6 Rxe5 31.Rd4 Rc5 32.c3 Re5 33.b4 f5 34.exf5 Rxf5 35.Rd7+ Rf7



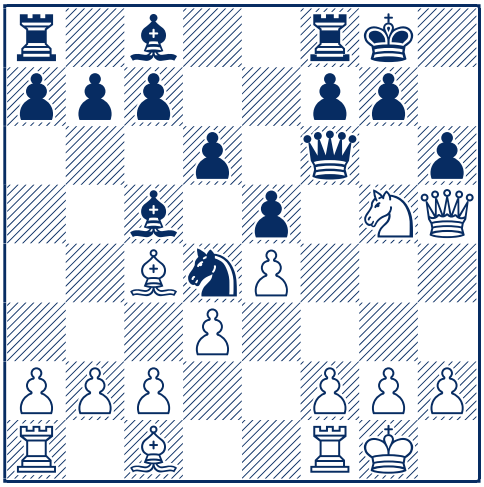
(white to move)

36.Rxf7+?? (The king and pawn endgame is lost for White since Black can create an outside passer.) 36…Kxf7 37.h3 (37.Kf2 is the only way to catch the a-pawn, but Black can still use the pawn as a distraction and then race back to clean up the kingside, e.g., 37…a5 38.bxa5 bxa5 39.Ke3 Ke6 40.Kd4 Kd6 41.Kc4 Kc6 42.Kb3 Kb5 43.c4+ Kc5 44.Kc3 a4 45.h4 h5 46.g3 a3 47.Kb3 a2 48.Kxa2 Kxc4 etc.) 37…Ke6 (37…a5! queens) 38.g4 Kd5 39.Kf2 Kc4 40.h4 Kxc3 41.Ke1 Kxb4 42.Kd1 a5 43.Kc2 Kc4 44.Kb2 a4 45.Ka3 b5 46.g5 Kc5 47.h5 gxh5 48.Ka2 h4 49.Ka3 h3 50.Ka2 h2 51.Ka3 h1Q 52.Ka2 Qg2+ 53.Ka3 Qc2 54.g6 Qb3# 0-1

Rogers,Finneas - Goddard,Joshua

2017 NH Scholastic Individuals (4), 19.03.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Ng5 0-0 6.d3 d6 7.0-0 Ng4 (7…Bg4 8.Qd2 [8.Qe1 Nd4] h6 is good for Black) 8.Qf3 Nf6 (8…Nd4) 9.Nd5 Nd4 10.Nxf6+ Qxf6 11.Qh5 h6



(white to move)

12.Nf3 (Better is 12.c3 Ne6 [12…Nxc2 13.Rb1 hxg5 14.Bxg5 g6 15.Bxf6 gxh5 16.Bb3 Nd4 17.cxd4 Bxd4 18.Rbc1!=] 13.Nxe6 Bxe6 14.Bxe6 Qxe6=) 12…Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 Be6 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Qg4 d5 16.Bd2 dxe4 17.fxe4 Bxf2+ 18.Kg2 Qh4 19.Qxe6+ Kh8 20.a3 Rae8 21.Qd5?? (21.Qh3 defends) 21…Qg4+ 22.Kh1 Qf3# 0-1

NH Closed

Manchester – March 24 - 26, 2017

The NH Closed is an invitational event which brings together the top-placing NH players from the preceding year's major state tournaments, namely, the NH Open, Amateur, Quick, and Scholastic championships, plus the Queen City Tornado and a sixth player, this year Hal Terrie, qualifying by rating.

IM Joe Fang defended his title with a score of 4.5 out of 5, fending off an impressive, undefeated streak by Aashish Welling who finished on 4 out of 5. John Elmore took clear third with a 50 percent score.

FA Alex Relyea, IM Joe Fang, Hal Terrie, David Kochman, Clay Bradley, Aashish Welling, John Elmore

Welling,Aashish (1993) - Kochman,David [D20]

2017 NH Closed (1), 2017-03-24

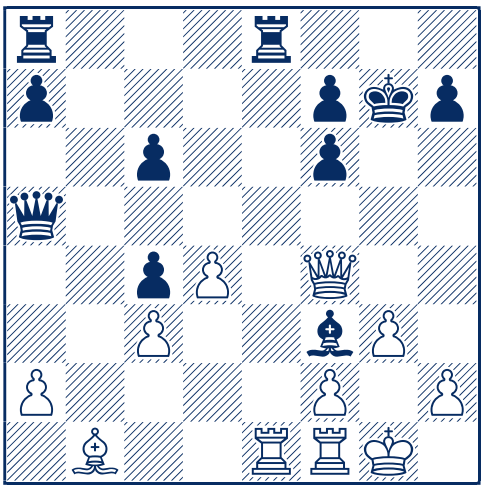
1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3 e5 4.Bxc4 exd4 5.exd4 Nf6 6.Nf3 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Nbd7 9.Re1 h6 10.Ne5 Nb6 11.Bd3 c6 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 Be6 14.b3 Nd5 15.Bxd5 Bxd5 16.Qg4 Be6 17.Qh5 Kh7 18.Bb2 g6 19.Qf3 Bd5 20.Qd3 Be6 21.Nxg6 fxg6 22.Rxe6 Rf5 23.Rae1 Bxh2+ 24.Kxh2 Qh4+ 25.Qh3 Qf4+ 26.Qg3 Rh5+ 27.Kg1 1-0

Terrie,Henry (1990) - Bradley,Clay [D30]

2017 NH Closed (1), 2017-03-24

1.c4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 e6 4.g3 d5 5.cxd5 exd5 6.d4 Nf6 7.Bg2 c4 8.0-0 Bb4 9.Bg5 Be6 10.Ne5 0-0 11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.e4 Bxc3 13.bxc3 Qa5 (13…h6) 14.Bxf6 gxf6 15.Qd2 (Stockfish 8 prefers 15.Rc1 freeing up the queen at the cost of the a-pawn and a dangerous passer, but it's a long line with basically only the White queen and h-pawn participating in the attack.)

15…dxe4 16.Bxe4 Bd5 17.Bc2 Kg7 18.Rae1 Rfe8 19.Bb1 Bf3 20.Qf4?



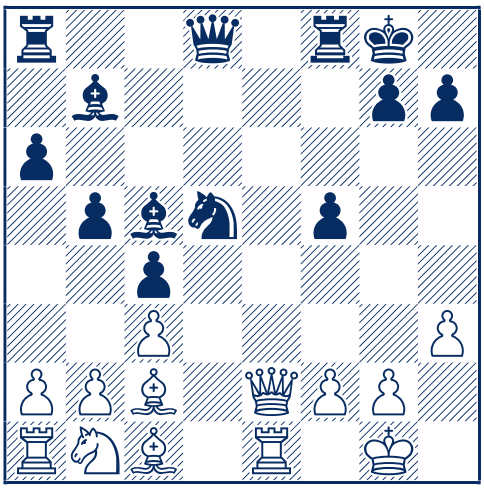
Spot The Tactic #7 (black to move)

20…Qh5 21.Re3 Bd5 22.Rfe1 Reb8 (22…Qh3 is met simply by 23.f3. He can set a clever trap though with 22…Rab8!, taking advantage of White's back rank weakness. For example after 23.Rxe8?? Rxe8 actually wins since on 24.Rf1? [24.Rc1 Is better] 24…Qh3, 25.f3 no longer works due to 25…Re2, when liquidation with 26.Qg4+ fails to 26…Qxg4 27.fxg4 Rg2 28.Kh1 Rxg3+ with mate to follow. With these ideas in mind, White's best response is 23.Be4 with equality.) 23.Be4 Rb2 24.Rf3 Qg5 25.Qxg5+ fxg5 26.Bxd5 cxd5 27.Rf5 (27.Re7 Rf8 28.Rxa7) 27…Rxa2 (27…Kg6) 28.Re7 (28.Rxg5+ Kf6 29.Rxd5) 28…Rf8 29.Rxd5 Rc2 30.Rxa7 (30.Rxg5+ Kf6 31.Rge5) 30…Rxc3? (30…Kg6 should hold.) 31.Rxg5+ Kf6 32.Rc5 Rd8 33.Ra6+ Ke7 34.d5 Rd3 35.Rxc4 R8xd5 36.Rf4 h5 37.h4 Rd7 38.Raf6 (38.Rf5 scoops up the h-pawn after 38…R3d5 39.Ra5!) 38…Kf8 39.R6f5 R3d5 40.Kg2 Kg7 41.Rxd5 Rxd5 42.Kf3 Kg6 43.Rc4 Rf5+ 44.Ke3 Rb5 45.f3 Ra5 46.Rd4 Re5+ 47.Re4 Ra5 48.Re8 f6 49.Rd8 Re5+ 50.Kf2 Ra5 51.Rg8+ Kh7 52.Re8 Kg6 53.g4 hxg4 54.fxg4 f5 55.g5 Ra4 56.Rh8 (56.Re6+ Kh5 57.Rh6+ Kg4 58.g6 Ra7 59.h5 with the trick 59…f4? 60.g7! Rxg7 61.Rg6+) 56…Ra2+ 57.Ke3 Ra3+ 58.Kd4 Ra4+ 59.Kc3 Ra3+? (59…f4 60.Rh6 Kf5 draws.) 60.Kb4 Rd3 61.Rh6+ Kg7 62.Kc4 Rd1 63.h5 Rg1 64.Rg6+ Kh7 65.Kd4 Rh1 66.Rh6+ Kg7 67.Ke5 Ra1 68.Rg6+ Kh7 69.Rd6 1-0

Elmore,John (1909) - Fang,Joe (2321) [C88]

2017 NH Closed (1), 2017-03-24

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.h3 Bb7 9.c3 d5 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 (Better is 13.cxd4. After the move in the game, the queen and bishop get kicked back with space-gaining pawn advances.) 13…c5 14.Qe4 c4 15.Bc2 f5 16.Qe2 Bc5



(white to move)

17.Qh5 (17.b3 was tried in Munguntuul,B (2261) – Pustov,P (2407) Moscow 2006 which saw a pretty finish: 17…Qh4 18.bxc4 Rae8 19.Be3 Nxe3 20.fxe3 Rxe3 21.Qxe3 Qxe1+ 0-1) 17…Qb6 18.Qh4 Rae8 19.Rf1 Re2 20.Bd1 Bxf2+! 21.Rxf2 Re1+ 22.Kh2 Qd6+ 0-1

Elmore,John (1909) - Terrie,Henry (1990) [B23]

2017 NH Closed (2), 2017-03-25

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 e6 3.f4 d5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bb5 Nf6 6.Qe2 Be7 7.d3 0-0 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.0-0 dxe4 10.dxe4 Qb6 11.Rd1 Ba6 12.Qe1 Rfd8 13.Rxd8+ Rxd8 14.h3 c4+ 15.Kh2 Nd7 16.Na4 Qb5 17.b3 c5 18.Bb2 Bf6 19.Rd1 Bxb2 20.Nxb2 Qb8 21.Qa5 cxb3 22.axb3 Be2 23.Rd6 Bxf3 24.gxf3 g5 25.Qd2 Qc7 26.Nc4 gxf4 27.Qxf4 f6 28.e5 Nxe5 29.Rxd8+ Qxd8 30.Nxe5 fxe5 31.Qxe5 Qb6 32.Kg3 a5 33.Kg4 Kf7 34.Kg5 Qd8+ 35.Kg4 Qd4+ 1-0

Fang,Joseph (2321) - Kochman,David [D19]

2017 NH Closed (2), 2017-03-25

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Qe2 0-0 10.e4 Bg6 11.Bd3 Qa5 12.Rd1 e5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 15.f4 Qa5 16.h3 Rfe8 17.e5 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Bxd3 19.Rxd3 Rad8 20.Rxd8 Qxd8 21.Kh2 Qd5 22.c4 Qd4 23.Ra3 Ne4 24.Be3 Qd8 25.Bxa7 f5 26.a5 Qe7 27.Rd3 Rd8 28.Bb6 Rxd3 29.Qxd3 Kf7 30.Bd8 Qe6 31.Qd4 Ke8 32.Bc7 Qe7 33.Bd6 Qd8 34.c5 Qxa5 35.Qc4 Nxd6 36.Qe6+ Kf8 37.cxd6 Qd8 38.Qxf5+ Kg8 39.e6 Qe8 40.d7 Qe7 41.Qf7+ 1-0

Bradley,Clay - Welling,Aashish (1993) [D00]

2017 NH Closed (2), 2017-03-25

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 d5 3.e3 c5 4.Nc3 Nc6 5.Nb5 e5 6.dxe5 a6 7.Nc3 d4 8.exf6 dxc3 9.Qxd8+ Kxd8 10.bxc3 gxf6 11.0-0-0+ Ke8 12.Bc4 Be6 13.Bd5 Rd8 14.Bxc6+ bxc6 15.Rxd8+ Kxd8 16.a4 Rg8 17.Bg3 Rg4 18.f4 f5 19.Nf3 f6 20.Kd2 Bd5 21.Rf1 Rg7 22.Rb1 Kc7 23.Ke2 Rd7 24.Bh4 Be7 25.g3 Bd8 26.Nd2 c4 27.Rb4 Be7 28.Rb1 ½-½

Terrie,Henry (1989) - Fang,Joseph (2321) [E69]

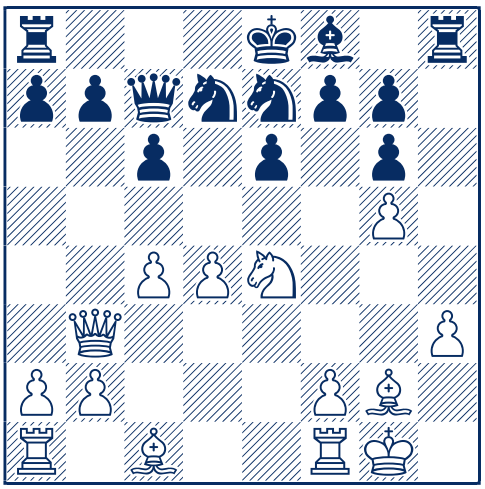
2017 NH Closed (3), 2017-03-25

1.Nf3 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.c4 Nbd7 7.Nc3 e5 8.e4 c6 9.Rb1 exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8 11.Re1 a5 12.h3 Nc5 13.Bf4 Qb6 14.Nc2 Be6 15.Bf1 Rad8 16.Be3 Bc8 17.Bg2 Qc7 18.f3 Nfd7 19.Bf2 Ne5 20.Bf1 f5 21.f4 Nf7 22.exf5 Bxf5 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.g4 Bc8 25.Bg2 Ne6 26.Qd2 d5 27.cxd5 Nxf4 28.Re1 Rxe1+ 29.Nxe1 Nxg2 30.Kxg2 b5 31.Nf3 Bb7 32.Bg3 Qd7 33.Qf4 cxd5 34.Qb8+ Bf8 35.Nd4 b4 36.Ncb5 Qe7 37.Qc7 Qe4+ 38.Kh2 Ba6 39.Qb6 Bxb5 40.Nxb5 Ng5 41.Nd4 Qxd4 0-1

Welling,Aashish (1993) - Elmore,John (1909) [D12]

2017 NH Closed (3), 2017-03-25

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 Bf5 5.Nc3 e6 6.Nh4 Bg4 7.Qb3 Qb6 8.h3 Bh5 9.g4 Bg6 10.Nxg6 hxg6 11.Bg2 Nbd7 12.0-0 Qc7 13.g5 Ng8 (13…Ne4 is actually playable because after 14.Nxe4 dxe4 the bishop cannot take without dropping h3.) 14.e4 dxe4 15.Nxe4 Ne7



(white to move)

16.Qxb7! Qxb7 17.Nd6+ Kd8 18.Nxb7+ Kc7 19.Na5 Nb6 20.Bf4+ Kd7 21.Rfd1 Rc8 22.Rac1 Rh4 23.Bg3 Rh5 24.d5 cxd5 25.c5 Na8 26.Bf1 Nc7 27.h4 Nc6 28.Nxc6 Kxc6 29.b4 a6 30.a4 Ra8 31.Rb1 Be7 32.Rdc1 Rhh8 33.b5+ axb5 34.axb5+ Kd7 35.c6+ Kd8 36.b6 Na6 37.b7 1-0

Kochman,David - Bradley,Clay [A53]

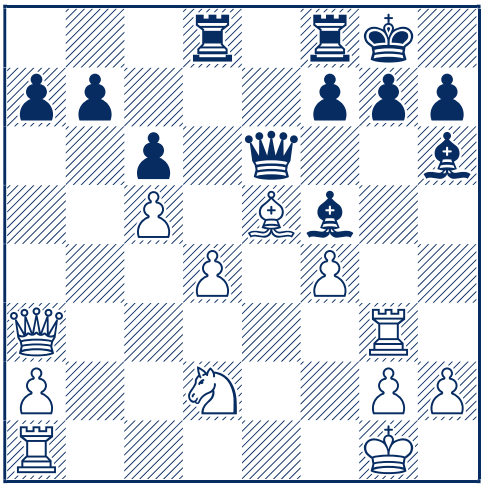
2017 NH Closed (3), 2017-03-25

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nd7 3.c4 e5 4.Nc3 Ngf6 5.Be3 Be7 6.f3 c6 7.Bd3 a6 8.Qd2 b5 9.Nge2 b4 10.Nd1 d5 11.Nf2 0-0 12.0-0 Re8 13.f4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 exd4 15.Nxd4 Qc7 16.Nf5 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bf8 18.Bc2 g6 19.Nd4 Bg7 20.Rab1 c5 21.Nf3 Nb6 22.b3 Bb7 23.Qf2 Rac8 24.Rbe1 Nd7 25.Kh1 Nf6 26.Qh4 Nh5 27.f5 Bc3 28.fxg6 hxg6 29.Re2 Qe7 30.Qxe7 Rxe7 31.Ng1 Rce8 0-1

Elmore,John (1909) - Kochman,David [C42]

2017 NH Closed (4), 2017-03-26

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 d6 4.Nf3 Nxe4 5.d4 d5 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 Nc6 8.c4 Nb4 9.Nc3 Nxd3 10.Qxd3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 dxc4 12.Qxc4 0-0 13.Bf4 c6 14.Rfe1 Be6 15.Qd3 Bf6 16.Re3 Qd5 17.Be5 Bd8 18.Nd2 Bg5 19.f4 Bh6 20.c4 Qd7 21.c5 Rad8 22.Rg3 Bf5 23.Qf3 Qe6 24.Qa3? (24.Qb3=)



Spot The Tactic #8 (black to move)

24…Qd5 25.Qb2 Rd7 26.h3 Re8 27.Nf3 f6 28.Nh4 Be4 29.Bd6 Rxd6 30.cxd6 Bxf4 31.Rg4 Be3+ 32.Kh1 f5 33.Rxe4 fxe4 34.Qxb7 Bg5 35.Qd7 Rd8 36.Qg4 Bxh4 37.Qxh4 Rxd6 38.Qe7 h6 39.Re1 Qxd4 40.Rxe4 Qc5 41.Re1 Rd5 ½-½

Terrie,Henry (1990) - Welling,Aashish (1993) [E62]

2017 NH Closed (4), 2017-03-26

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c4 0-0 5.0-0 d6 6.d4 c6 7.Nc3 Qa5 8.e4 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 e5 11.d5 cxd5 12.cxd5 b5 13.Qe2 a6 14.Bd2 Qc7 15.Rfc1 Qb7 16.b4 Nbd7 17.a4 bxa4 18.Nxa4 Rfc8 19.Bg2 Ne8 20.Qd1 Nb6 21.Nc5 dxc5 22.bxc5 Nxd5 23.exd5 e4 24.c6 Qe7 25.Rab1 Nd6 26.Be3 Be5 27.Bc5 f5 28.Rb7 Rc7 29.Rcb1 Qd8 30.Bb6 Nxb7 31.cxb7 Rb8 32.Bxc7 Bxc7 33.Qb3 Qd6 34.Bf1 Kf8 35.Qb4 a5 36.Qxd6+ Bxd6 37.Ba6 Ke7 38.Rc1 a4 39.Bb5 a3 40.Bc6 Be5 0-1

Fang,Joseph (2321) - Bradley,Clay [D11]

2017 NH Closed (4), 2017-03-26

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.e3 a6 5.Bd3 b5 6.b3 Bg4 7.Nbd2 Bh5 8.Bb2 e6 9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Rc1 Bb4 11.Qc2 Bg6 12.e4 dxe4 13.Nxe4 0-0 14.Ne5 Nxe5 15.dxe5 Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Qe7 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Qe4 Ba3 19.Bxa3 Qxa3 20.Rc2 Rfd8 21.Qxc6 Rac8 22.Qb6 Rd7 23.g3 bxc4 24.bxc4 Rdc7 25.Rfc1 Rc5 26.Rd1 Rxe5 27.Rd8+ Rxd8 28.Qxd8+ Kh7 29.Qc7 Re1+ 30.Kg2 Qd3 31.Qe7 Qf1+ 32.Kf3 Qh1+ 33.Kg4 Re4+ 34.f4 Qd1+ 35.Kh3 f6 36.Rf2 Qd4 37.Rc2 Qd3 38.Rf2 Qxc4 39.Qa3 Qb5 40.Qf3 Qf5+ 41.Kg2 Re1 42.Rb2 e5 43.Rf2 e4 44.Qc3 Rd1 45.Rb2 Qd5 46.Qb3 Qc5 47.Qxd1 1-0

Welling,Aashish (1993) - Fang,Joseph (2321) [E61]

2017 NH Closed (5), 2017-03-26

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 0-0 5.Bg5 c5 6.d5 d6 7.Qc2 h6 8.Bh4 Qa5 9.Nd2 a6 ½-½

Kochman,David - Terrie,Henry (1990) [B48]

2017 NH Closed (5), 2017-03-26

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Ndb5 Qb8 7.Be3 a6 8.Nd4 Qc7 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.g3 Nf6 11.Bg2 d5 12.0-0 Be7 13.f4 0-0 14.e5 Nd7 15.Qg4 Bc5 16.Bxc5 Nxc5 17.Rae1 Qb6 18.Kh1 Qxb2 19.Ne2 Bd7 20.h4 Rab8 21.h5 h6 22.Qh4 Qxa2 23.g4 Qc4 24.g5 hxg5 25.Qxg5 Ne4 26.Qg4 Kh7 27.Ng1 Rb2 28.Nh3 Qxc2 29.Rg1 Rg8 30.Bxe4+ 1-0

Bradley,Clay - Elmore,John (1909) [A45]

2017 NH Closed (5), 2017-03-26

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.e3 Be7 4.h3 0-0 5.Nd2 d6 6.Ngf3 b6 7.Bd3 Bb7 8.Qe2 Nd5 9.c3 Nxf4 10.exf4 Nd7 11.0-0 Nf6 12.Rfe1 Re8 13.Ng5 Bf8 14.Rad1 g6 15.Ndf3 Bg7 16.Qc2 Nh5 17.g3 Qd7 18.Kh2 Re7 19.Rd2 h6 20.Bxg6 fxg6 21.Qxg6 Nf6 0-1

NH Quick Chess Championship

Portsmouth – April 1, 2017

With the score-keeping requirement waived due the rapid time control, this event doesn't result in a lot of games for us to replay. Luckily, our tournament winner, John Elmore, armed with his trusty Monroi, opted to record his path to victory. Not only that, he kindly offered to annotate every round along the way. We present here his notes, plus one of our own: John's first place marks his fourth in this event, breaking the previous record of three Quick Chess titles held by Braden Bournival.

Elmore,John (1900) - Harju,John (1265) [B00]

NH Quick (1), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 b6 2.d4 Bb7 3.Bd3 Nc6 4.c3 e6 5.Qe2 a6 6.Nf3 g6 7.h4 Bg7 8.h5 d6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Qd7 11.Nbd2

First round games at the New Hampshire Quick generally feature mismatches. My opponent did his best to avoid any theoretical discussions in main line openings, but through a series of inaccurate opening moves, he has allowed his position to slip to this. Here, the computer advises g5 with the idea that black may manage to lock things up and survive. The text was the first mistake black made that cost him material.

11...0-0-0? 12.Bxa6 Nb8 13.Bxb7+ Kxb7 14.a4 Ne7 15.c4 Nec6 16.Qd3 Na6 17.d5 Ncb4 18.Qb3 f5

Black is still fighting. Here he threatens Bxb2 with the idea that white cannot play Qxb2 due to Nd3+.

19.h6 Nc5?

Bxb2 was the move I expected (with the intent of playing Rb1 and making some use of the b file), and it was best. The text falls to an intermezzo.

20.Bxc5 Bxb2 21.Rb1 dxc5 22.Rxb2 Ra8 23.0-0 Rxa4?

The computer instantly sees that black cannot make this capture, but it serves as an interesting example of the overworked defender. Notice how black's queen now has to choose between chasing down white's knight or defending his own rook.

24.Ne5 Qe8 25.Nf7 Rf8 26.Nd8+ Qxd8

If Nxe6 is permitted, the knight (particularly when factoring in the pawn it just captured) is superior to the rook, so black concedes the exchange.

27.Qxa4 fxe4 28.Rxb4 exd5

cxb4 permits Qc6+, following which white's rook will mate on a8.

29.Rb2 Qf6 30.Ra2 Kc8 31.Qa8+ Kd7 32.Qxd5+ Qd6 33.Qxd6+ 1-0

Judy,Richard (1700) - Elmore,John (1900) [C50]

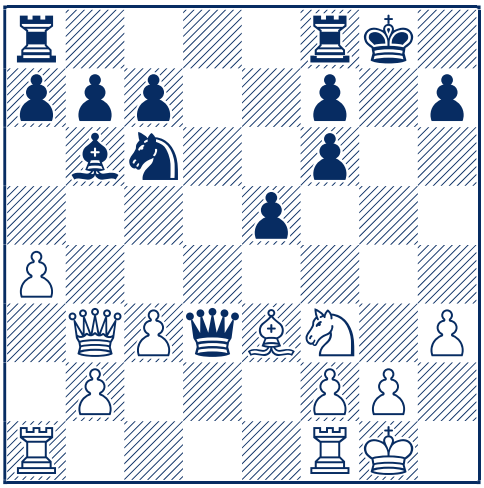
NH Quick (2), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.Be3 Bg4 7.Nbd2 Bb6 8.a4 0-0 9.h3 Be6 10.c3 d5 11.Bb3 dxe4?!

[Fritz 6: 11...Bxe3 12.fxe3 dxe4 13.dxe4 Qd6 14.Bxe6 Qxe6 15.Ng5 Qe7 16.Ngf3 -0.56/12]

12.Nxe4 Bxb3 13.Nxf6+ gxf6 14.Qxb3 Qxd3



(white to move)

This is the sort of position Richard and I have played many times. Richard is generally willing to surrender a pawn (or more) in order to gain attacking chances, and I find myself unable to talk myself out of taking hanging pawns even when a serious attack will come as a result.

15.Bh6?!

[Fritz 6: 15.Rad1 Qe4 16.Rfe1 Qg6 17.Bxb6 cxb6 18.c4 Rfd8 19.Rd5 Na5 0.00/14]

15...Rfd8 16.Rad1 Qg6 17.Be3 Rxd1?!

[Fritz 6: 17...e4 18.Nd4 Ne5 19.a5 Bxa5 20.Qxb7 Bb6 21.Nc6 Nxc6 22.Qxc6 -0.63/12]

18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Nxd8 20.Bxb6?!

[Fritz 6: 20.Qd5 Nc6 21.Kh2 Bxe3 22.fxe3 Qh6 23.Qd7 Qxe3 24.Qc8+ Kg7 0.00/12]

20...axb6 21.Qd5?!

[Fritz 6: 21.Qd1 Ne6 22.Ne1 Kg7 23.b3 Nf4 24.Kh2 c6 25.Kh1 Nd5 -0.50/13]

21...Nc6?

[Fritz 6: 21...Ne6 22.Qxb7 Qc2 23.b4 Qxa4 24.Nh4 Qa1+ 25.Kh2 Qxc3 26.Qc8+ -0.81/14]

22.Qd7 Qb1+ 23.Kh2 Qxb2 24.Qg4+

[Fritz 6: 24.Nh4 h5 25.Qe8+ Kg7 26.Nf5+ Kg6 27.Ng3 Qxf2 28.Qg8+ Kh6 0.31/13]

24...Kf8 25.Qc8+ Ke7?

Here I needed to play Kg7, take my draw and move on.

26.Nh4 Nd8??

This was a poor effort at defending a troubled position, but I needn't have put myself in such a bad way. Kd6 would have been a tough move to make, but it seems it was black's last shot.

[Fritz 6: 26...Kd6 27.Nf5+ Kc5 28.Ng3 Qc2 29.Qxc7 Kc4 30.Qxb7 Qxa4 31.Qxf7+ 0.31/14]

27.Qxc7+ Ke8 28.Nf5 Qa3 29.Nd6+ Kf8 30.Qxd8+ Kg7 31.Ne8+ Kf8 32.Nxf6+ Kg7 33.Ne8+ Kf8 34.Qd6+ 1-0

Elmore,John (1900) - McKenna,Ryan (1066) [A08]

NH Quick (3), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 c5 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.0-0 e5 5.d3 Bg4 6.c4 d4 7.Bd2 Qd7 8.a3 a5 9.Qa4 Ra6 10.Be1 Bd6 11.Nbd2 Nge7 12.Ne4 0-0 13.Qb3 a4 14.Qc2

This was my second game against a player rated several hundred points below me. However, in contrast to my first

round opponent, who tried to hide and survive, black did a good job in this game of developing his pieces and fighting for the center. As such, white had to do a lot more work in the middlegame to win.

14...f5 15.Nxd6 Qxd6 16.Bd2 Ng6 17.Rfb1 Na5 18.Bxa5?

Here, the computer fearlessly captures on a4. I considered it and thought I might even be okay with it, but e4 seemed a bit scary - too scary since I couldn't take time to calculate it - so I took a more cautious path. Nevertheless, Qxa4 is correct.

[Fritz 6: 18.Qxa4 Nc6 19.Qb5 Qe7 20.b4 e4 21.bxc5 exf3 22.exf3 Bh5 0.91/12]

18...Rxa5 19.b4 axb3 20.Rxb3 Rb8 21.Rab1 Qd7?

Ryan had held his own despite the rating difference up to this point. Here, it seems he counted on a tactic to save his b pawn that doesn't work due to a forking tactic.

[Fritz 6: 21...b6 22.h3 Bxf3 23.Bxf3 f4 24.Bd5+ Kh8 25.Be4 fxg3 26.fxg3 0.12/12]

22.Ng5 b5?

[Fritz 6: 22...e4 23.h3 Qe7 24.Qd2 Bxe2 25.Qxa5 Qxg5 26.dxe4 fxe4 27.Bxe4 1.47/12]

23.cxb5

This is sufficient, but the computer found an interesting, and likely superior alternative in Qd2, hitting the a5 rook and eventually winning greater amounts of material after Bd5 and h3.

[Fritz 6: 23.Qd2 Ra7 24.h3 h6 25.Bd5+ Kh8 26.Nf7+ Kh7 27.hxg4 f4 2.88/12]

23...Rbxb5?

h6 leaves black down material, but this costs a rook. Ryan simply missed the queen's fork on c4.

24.Qc4+ Kf8 25.Rxb5 Rxb5 26.Rxb5 Bxe2 27.Rb8+ Ke7 28.Qf7+ Kd6 29.Rb6+ Kc7 30.Rb7+ 1-0

French,Al (1797) - Elmore,John (1900) [A43]

NH Quick (4), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.d4 c5 2.e3 b6 3.c3 Bb7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Nbd2 d6 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.0-0 e5 8.dxe5 dxe5 9.e4 Be7 10.Qe2 Qc7 11.Rd1 Nf8 12.Nf1 Rd8 13.Bb5+ N8d7 14.Ng3 a6 15.Ba4 b5 16.Bc2 0-0 17.Bg5 h6 18.Bh4 c4 19.Nf5 Rfe8 20.Nxe7+ Rxe7 21.h3 Re6 22.Rd2 Nc5 23.Rxd8+ Qxd8 24.Bxf6 Qxf6 25.Rd1 Rd6 26.Rd2 Rxd2 27.Nxd2 Qf4

After an unremarkable opening and following some piece exchanges, black finds himself with this pleasant position. Material is even, and the pawns are balanced, but if piece quality means anything, black is clearly for choice. To solve his problems white pushes pawns in front of his king that eventually become weak and allow black to infiltrate his position.

28.g3 Qf6 29.Qe3 Qc6 30.f3 Ne6 31.Kf2 Ng5 32.h4 Ne6 33.Ke2 Nc5 34.Kf2 Nd7 35.Ke2 Nf6 36.Kf2 Qd7 37.Kg2 Bc8 38.g4 h5 39.Bd1 hxg4 40.fxg4 Nxg4

Black's maneuvers have gained him a pawn, but "won" games don't win themselves. Sadly for white, on top of black's pawn plus materially, he still can claim superior pieces and better king safety.

41.Qg5 f6 42.Bxg4 Qxg4+ 43.Qxg4 Bxg4 44.Kg3 Be6

After two more sets of pieces, including the queens, black is left with an endgame that is fairly routine. White relies on his knight to hold his queenside together, but in doing so, black is able to make progress on the kingside.

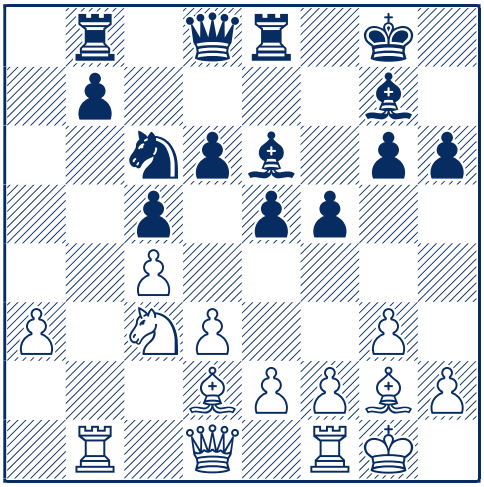
45.Nf1 Kf7 46.Ne3 Ke7 47.a3 Kd6 48.Kf3 Kc5 49.Kg3 a5 50.Nc2 Bd7 51.Kf3 Bc6 52.Ke3 Be8 53.Kf3 Bg6 54.Ke3 Bh5 55.Ne1 b4 56.Nc2 bxc3 57.bxc3 Kb5 58.Kd2 Bg6 59.Ne3 Bxe4 60.a4+ Kc5 61.Nd1 Bc6 62.Nb2 f5 63.Ke3 g6 64.Kf2 Be4 65.Ke3 Bc2 66.Kf3 Bb3 67.Ke3 Kd5 68.Kf3 f4 69.Kg4 Ke4 70.Kg5 f3 71.Kxg6 f2 72.h5 f1Q 73.h6 Kd5 74.Kg7 Bc2 0-1

Elmore,John (1900) - Schalk,Alan (1886) [A38]

NH Quick (5), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.0-0 0-0 5.c4 d6 6.Nc3 a6 7.d3 c5 8.Bd2 Nc6 9.Rb1 Nd7 10.a3 e5 11.Ne1 f5 12.Nc2 Nf6 13.Ne3 Re8 14.Ned5 Nd4 15.b4 Rb8 16.b5 axb5 17.Nxb5 Nxd5 18.Bxd5+ Be6 19.Bg2 Nc6 20.Nc3 h6



(white to move)

21.Rxb7

I can recall feeling pleased that I found this tactic, but it's more flash than substance. True, white nets a pawn, but black gains temporary control over the b file, and white has to do without his strong g2 bishop.

21...Rxb7 22.Bxc6 Ree7 23.Bxb7 Rxb7 24.Qa4?!

Qc2 is correct, better enabling white to fight for the b file. In the post mortem, Alan suggested that I was doing quite well if I simply left my queen to defend my kingside. As it turns out, he was absolutely right.

24...Qb8 25.Nb5 d5 26.Be3 d4 27.Bd2 Bd7 28.Rb1 Bc6 29.Qa5 f4 30.f3 fxg3 31.hxg3 e4?

The computer sees this as a desperate bid for counterplay, but during the game, it caused me more than a bit of concern.

32.Bf4

Essential, but sufficient.

32...Be5 33.Qd2??

[Fritz 6: 33.Qa6 Bxf4 34.Qxc6 Bxg3 35.fxe4 Qf4 36.Rf1 Qg5 37.Qe8+ Kh7 0.88/13]

33...e3!

During the post mortem, we thought this might have been a mistake, instead favoring exf3, opening the position, but black is winning here.

34.Bxe5 exd2??

And here black throws away the win. To be fair, Alan was in serious time pressure, but Qxe5 leaves white with an impossible defense.

[Fritz 6: 34...Qxe5 35.Qe1 g5 36.Qf1 Qxg3+ 37.Qg2 Qxg2+ 38.Kxg2 g4 39.a4 -1.94/16]

35.Bxb8 Rxb8 36.Rd1 Bxb5 37.cxb5 Rxb5 38.Rxd2 Rb3 39.Rc2 Rc3 40.Ra2

Here, Alan's flag fell. While at this point the game should be a win for white, that was not so six moves earlier! **1-0**

Welling,Aashish (1905) - Elmore,John (1941) [A44]

NH Quick (6), 2017-04-01

Annotated by John Elmore

1.d4 c5 2.d5 d6 3.c4 e5 4.e4 Be7 5.Nc3 Bg5 6.Nf3 Bxc1 7.Rxc1 f5 8.a3 Nf6 9.Bd3 f4

Here, I thought the most important factor in the game was that black had a good bishop while white's remaining bishop was bad. As such, I attempted to make it as bad as I could by leaving white with as many pawns on light squares as possible. The computer takes a different approach, favoring exchanges on e4 that will leave black with a half-open f file for his rook.

10.b4 b6 11.bxc5 bxc5 12.Bc2 0-0 13.Ba4 Nbd7 14.0-0 Nb6 15.Bc6 Rb8 16.Nb5?

It's not obvious why Aashish felt the need to play such a risky move here. Qd3 would have defended white's loose pawns while leaving room for Nb5 on his next move. Perhaps he feared a6, preventing Nb5.

16...a6 17.Na7 Nxe4

This isn't bad, but the less obvious Bg4 is better, as white has to take the time to play Ba4, freeing a square for the a7 knight.

[Fritz 6: 17...Bg4 18.Ba4 Nxa4 19.Qxa4 Nxe4 20.Nc6 Qe8 21.Qc2 Bxf3 22.gxf3 -0.84/14]

18.Nxc8 Nxc8 19.Qc2 Ng5 20.Nxg5 Qxg5 21.f3 Ne7 22.Bd7 Nf5 23.Bxf5 Qxf5 24.Qxf5 Rxf5 25.Rb1 Rff8

At this point, the dust has settled following a series of piece exchanges. Black is simply up a pawn and should win.

26.Kf2 Kf7 27.Ke2 Ke7 28.Kd2 Kd7 29.Kc2 Kc7 30.Rfe1 Rxb1 31.Rxb1 Rb8 32.Re1 a5 33.Rb1 Rxb1 34.Kxb1

Aashish's flag fell here, but the ending should be won for black. **0-1**

Elmore,John (1941) - Grant,Doug (2042) [A07]
NH Quick (7), 2017-04-01
Annotated by John Elmore

1.Nf3 d5 2.g3 Bg4 3.Bg2 Nc6 4.0-0 Qd7 5.d3 Nf6 6.c4 g6 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nc3 Nxc3 9.bxc3 Bg7 10.Rb1 Rb8 11.Bd2 0-0 12.Qa4 Bh3

12...Nd4 13.Qxd7 Nxe2+ 14.Kh1 Bxd7 15.Rb3 Bf5 16.Re1 Bxd3 17.Bf1 and white is for choice.

13.Rb2 Bxg2 14.Kxg2 Rfd8 15.Rfb1 b6 16.Qc4 a5 17.Bf4 Rbc8 18.d4 h6 19.Rd2 e6 20.Rbd1 Ne7?!

[Fritz 6: 20...g5 21.Be3 Ne7 22.Rd3 b5 23.Qc5 Rb8 24.c4 bxc4 25.Qxc4 -0.34/13]

21.e4 Qc6 22.Qd3 Qa4

[Fritz 6: 22...g5 23.Be3 f5 24.Ng1 fxe4 25.Qc2 Nd5 26.Ne2 e5 27.c4 -0.81/12]

23.h4 c5 24.Qe3 cxd4 25.cxd4 Kh7 26.Ne5 Bxe5

The computer favors an immediate Qe8, preserving black's g7 bishop. Now white gets a good chance to attack black's king.

27.Bxe5 Ng8 28.Qf3?!

White should have forced open the position here with h5.

[Fritz 6: 28.h5 f6 29.hxg6+ Kxg6 30.Bf4 Rc4 31.f3 Rdc8 32.Qf2 Kg7 0.84/13]

28...Qe8?!

[Fritz 6: 28...f6 29.Bxf6 Rf8 30.e5 Nxf6 31.exf6 0.62/6]

29.h5 Qe7 30.hxg6+ fxg6 31.Rh1 Rf8 32.Qe3 g5 33.Rdd1?

It was hard to find a move for white that isn't winning in this position, but somehow I managed it.

[Fritz 6: 1) 33.Rb1 Rc6 34.d5 exd5 35.exd5 Rg6 36.d6 Qb7+ 37.Kh2 Re8 1.66/13 ;

Fritz 6: 2) 33.d5 exd5 34.exd5 Rf5 35.Re1 Qd7 36.g4 Rxe5 37.Qxe5 Qxg4+ 1.63/13 ;

Fritz 6: 3) 33.Qd3 Rc6 34.Rb1 Qd8 35.d5 exd5 36.exd5+ Rg6 37.Rc1 Rf7 1.50/13 ;

Fritz 6: 4) 33.Rb2 Rc6 34.d5 exd5 35.exd5 Rg6 36.d6 Qb7+ 37.Kg1 Re8 1.34/13 ;

Fritz 6: 5) 33.g4 Qf7 34.Rb1 Rc6 35.d5 exd5 36.exd5 Rg6 37.d6 Qd7 1.22/13]

33...Rc2 34.Rd2 Rxd2 35.Qxd2 Qf7 36.Qe3 Qg6 37.Rc1?!

Rb1 is clearly stronger.

37...g4 38.Bf4?

[Fritz 6: 38.Rc6 Rf3 39.Qe2 Nf6 40.Rc7+ Kg8 41.Qc4 Nxe4 42.Qc6 1.19/13]

38...Nf6 39.Rc7+ Rf7 40.Rxf7+ Qxf7 41.Bxh6 Qg6 42.Bf4 Qxe4+ 43.Qxe4+ Nxe4 44.Bc7 Nc3 45.Bxb6 a4 46.a3 Nb5?!

[Fritz 6: 46...Nb1 47.Bc5 Nd2 48.f4 Kg6 49.Kf2 Kf5 50.Bb4 Nc4 51.Bc5 -0.06/21]

47.Bc5 Kg6 48.f4?

[Fritz 6: 48.f3 Kf5 49.Kf2 Nc3 50.fxg4+ Kxg4 51.Ke3 Kxg3 52.Kd3 Nd5 0.53/19]

48...Kf5 49.Kf2 Ke4 50.Ke2 Nxd4+ 51.Bxd4 Kxd4 52.Kd2 Kc4 53.Kc2 Kd4 54.Kd2 ½-½

Hayes,Daniel (1489) - Elmore,John (1941) [B49]
NH Quick (8), 2017-04-01
Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e6 2.d4 c5

Daniel Hayes entered the event with a 1489 quick rating, yet he showed up to this final round game on board one... with draw odds to boot! I chose this move order to try to make the game somewhat complex for a player I assumed would try to take the game into peaceful waters.

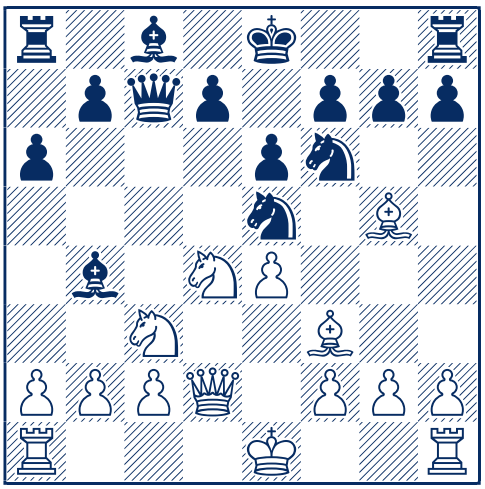
3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 Nc6 7.Be3 Bb4 8.Qd2 Nf6 9.Bf3?!

[Fritz 6: 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Bd3 d5 11.exd5 Nxd5 12.Bd4 0-0 13.0-0 Bd6 -0.06/14]

9...Ne5 10.Bg5??

The open Sicilian is a wonderful opening, but part of its character is the complete lack of mercy it shows to those who commit opening errors. Bf3 was questionable, but this is simply bad, and the punishment is harsh.

[Fritz 6: 10.Nde2 d5 11.Qd4 Bd6 12.exd5 Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 Be5 14.Bf4 Bxd4 -0.47/13]



(black to move)

10...Nc4!

The game is over here. The rest is mere gratuitous violence.

11.Qe2 Nxb2 12.0-0 Bxc3 13.Nf5 exf5 14.exf5+ Qe5 15.Be3 0-0 16.Rab1 d5 17.g4 Bd7 18.g5 Bb5 19.gxf6 Bxe2 20.Bxe2 d4 21.fxg7 Rfe8 22.Bh6 Qxe2 23.f6 Qg4+ 24.Kh1 Qf3+ 25.Kg1 Re4 0-1

NH Scholastic Team Championships

Pelham – April 8, 2017

The Scholastic Team Championships were held on April 8, 2017 in Pelham, New Hampshire.Twenty-two teams and eighty-nine players competed in the four-round event. The winner of the high school section was Phillips Exeter Academy. PEA was represented by Patrick Dickinson, George Turer, Kristy Chang and Ben Holderness. The winner of the junior high section was The Rowdy Powdies of Mascenic in New Ipswich. Mascenic was represented by Noah Rogers, Sebastian Tilton, Finneas Rogers and Owen Hannah. The winner of the elementary section was the Nashua Chess Club. Nashua was represented by Shikhar Gupta, Avni Gauri Nagaraj, Vedant Patil and Jesse Bordelon.

Renaud, Jr.,David (1176) - Yeaton,Michael (630) [C78]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 a6 5.Bc4 b5 6.Bb3 Bb7 7.Nc3 Bc5 8.0-0 0-0 9.Bg5 Nd4 10.Re1 b4 11.Nd5 Nxb3 12.cxb3?!

Basic positional principles suggest one should capture towards the center in such instances.

12...Bxd5 13.exd5 c6?

Black is faced with an interesting dilemma and goes wrong, but the instinct appears to have been correct. Black's e5 pawn is difficult to defend, for Re8 permits Rxe5 and d6 allows white a good game after a line like d4 exd4 Nxd4. As such, black does not try to defend the e5 pawn, instead pursuing a weakened white pawn. This idea was correct, and the computer's suggestion, h6, is based on a similar principle, for Bh4 would allow g5 and then Nxd5. Unfortunately for black, c6 does not solve his problem effectively.

14.Rxe5 h6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 16.dxc6 Qxc6 17.Qc2 d6 18.Re4 Rfe8?

18...Rac8 here, indirectly defending the b4 pawn, is better. The text drops a pawn for free.

19.Rae1?

Fortunately for black, white lets him off the hook.

19...Rac8 20.d4?

Here, white sets the trap that winds up winning the game, but black needn't have fallen victim to it. To be sure, the bishop cannot move due to Qxc6, but this is a temporary condition, for Rxe4 Rxe4 (or Qxe4) followed by Bxd4 nets black a pawn, since recapturing leaves white with back rank problems.

20...Bxd4??

But this is the end of the world. White mops up easily.

21.Qxc6 Rxc6 22.Rxe8+ Kh7 23.Nxd4 Rc5 24.g4 Rd5 25.Nf3 Rd3 26.Kg2 g6 27.Ra8 h5 28.gxh5 gxh5 29.Ng5+ Kg7 30.Nf3 Rd5 31.Rxa6 Kf8 32.Ra7 Rc5 33.Ree7 Rc8 34.Rxf7+ Kg8 35.Ng5 d5 36.Rh7 Rb8 37.Rag7+ Kf8 38.Ne6+ Ke8 39.Rh8# 1-0

Holderness,Ben - Scott,Bryant [C31]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.f4 d5 3.fxe5??

White plays the King's Gambit and runs into the Falkbeer Counter Gambit. I suspect he had not seen this opening before, but the text is a well-known error in this variation. The problem is that fxe5 permits Qh4+, following which white has two choices - Ke2 and g3 - and they're both bad.

3...dxe4??

Black, fortunately for white, was also unaware of fxe5's shortcomings.

4.d4 exd3 5.cxd3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Bf5 7.d4 Bxb1 8.Rxb1 Nge7 9.Bc4 g5??

Black's preceding set of moves left him in a bad way, to be sure, but defensive moves were still available to him (such as Nd5). The text, seemingly motivated by a desire to activate the h8 rook, is the sort of move one plays out of irresponsible desire, not a sober assessment of the position. White punishes the error mercilessly.

10.Nxg5 Rg8 11.Bxf7+ Kd7 12.Qg4+ Nf5 13.Qxf5+ Ke7 14.Qe6# 1-0

Karlis,Alexander (317) - Horgos,Jamie [C40]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Bd6 3.h4 Nf6 4.Ng1 Nxe4 5.Rh3 0-0 6.Re3 Qxh4 7.g3 Qh1 8.Bd3 Qxg1+ 9.Ke2 Qxf2# 0-1

Druding,Chris (173) - Yeaton,Michael (630) [A16]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

1.c4 d5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Bg4 4.d3 e5 5.Bg5 d4 6.Nd5 Bxf3 7.exf3 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Nxd5 10.cxd5 Qxd5 11.Rc1 Bb4+ 12.Ke2 Qxa2 13.Rxc7 Qxb2+ 14.Rc2 Qb3 15.Rc8+ Ke7 16.Rxh8 Qb2+ 17.Qd2 Qxd2# 0-1

Patil,Vedant (280) - Woodall,Olaf [B27]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e5 3.Nxe5 f6 4.Nf3 d6 5.Bc4 b6 6.Bd5 Nc6 7.Bxc6+ Bd7 8.Bxa8 Qxa8 9.Nc3 Kd8 10.0-0 Ke8 11.Nd5 Nh6 12.Nc7+ Ke7 13.Nxa8 Bc6 14.Nc7 Bxe4 15.d3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3 c4 17.Qxc4 b5 18.Qe6+ 1-0

Tilton,Pandora (215) - Patil,Vedant (280) [C50]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bc4 Bc5

4...Nxe4 is a well-known equalizing alternative.

5.0-0 0-0 6.d3 d6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Qe7?

Black fails to notice the hazards associated with Nd5 on white's next move. To avoid that, g5 would have been correct.

9.b3?

Up until this move, white has played well. Indeed, Nd5 would have cemented a solid advantage, if not a winning position, for white. However, b3 merely creates dark squared weaknesses on the queenside, and black quickly seizes his chance.

9...Bg4 10.h3 Be6 11.Bxe6 Qxe6 12.Re1?

White, having weakened her queenside dark squares, fails to notice a nasty pin on her c3 knight.

12...Bb4 13.Bg5??

This move, and several moves subsequent to it suggest that white was rattled by her earlier mistakes. To his credit, black finished the game effectively. The rest of the game can go without further comment.

13...Bxc3 14.Re3 Bxa1 15.Qxa1 hxg5 16.Nxg5 Qe7 17.Rf3 Nd4 18.Re3 Nxc2 19.Qc1 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 d5 21.exd5 Nxd5

22.Qd2 Rad8 23.Qc1 Nf4 24.h4 Ne2+ 25.Kh2 Nxc1 26.g3 f6 27.Ne4 Qa3 28.g4 Qxa2 29.g5 Qe2 30.g6 Rxd3 31.Ng5 fxg5 32.h5 Qxf2+ 33.Kh1 Rh3# 0-1

Holderness,Benjamin - Snyder,Anthony (950) [D38]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

Annotated by John Elmore

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Nbd7 5.Nf3 Bb4 6.Qc2 0-0 7.e3 h6 8.Bf4 b6 9.Be2 Bb7 10.0-0 c5 11.dxc5 bxc5 12.cxd5 exd5 13.a3 Bxc3 14.Qxc3 Ne4 15.Qc2 d4?

This is an interesting try to expand the scope of the b7 bishop, but the cost of a pawn is too high.

16.exd4 cxd4 17.Nxd4 Ndf6 18.Rad1 Rc8 19.Qd3 Re8 20.Rfe1 Nc5 21.Qd2 Nfe4 22.Bb5?

This is a clever way of dealing with the threat to the queen, but Qe3 is substantially better. Black's e4 knight, for all its threatened discovery attacks, cannot find a useful square to further endanger white's queen.

22...Nxd2?

Black cooperates with white's idea, going in for exchanges that lead to a pawn-up ending for white. However, Qd5! would have given white some difficulty, which is why Qe3 was truly better than Bb5.

23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.Bxe8 Rxe8 25.Bxd2 Ne4 26.Re1 Rd8 27.Bc3 Nxc3 28.bxc3 Rd6 29.Re7 Rb6 30.f3 Rb2 31.Re2?!

This doesn't spoil anything, but passed pawns must be pushed! Best is c4, following which black is faced with some discomfort as he tries to stop the pawn's progression to c8.

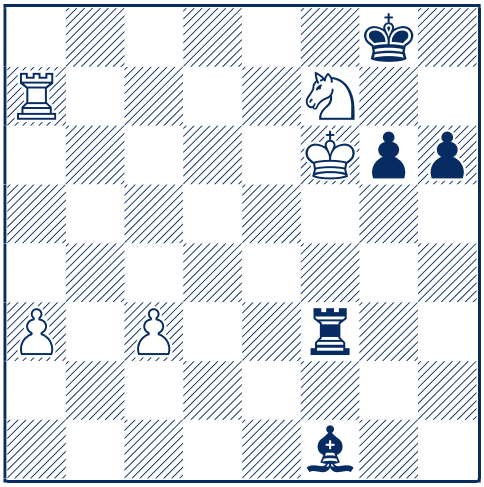
31...Rb1+ 32.Kf2 Ba6 33.Re1 Rb2+ 34.Kg3 Ra2 35.Re7 Bf1 36.Rxa7 Rxg2+ 37.Kf4 Rxh2 38.Nf5 g6 39.Nd6 Rh4+?

Even if white didn't have Kg3, following which black cedes the f pawn without a fight, the text just seems to push the white king to a superior square.

40.Ke5?!

Missing Kg3, but improving the king's position nonetheless.

40...Rh5+ 41.Kf6 Rh3 42.Nxf7 Rxf3+



(white to move)

43.Ke6??

The wrong way! Kxg6 was simple and best. Now black is winning.

43...g5??

And now he's not! Black missed Bc4+ this time around. Fortunately for him, he gets another chance.

44.Ra8+?

Nxh6+ is obvious and good.

44...Kg7 45.Ra7??

White misses one final chance to avoid the hammer falling with Bc4+. Black finds the move and goes on to win the ending easily.

45...Bc4+ 46.Ke5 Bxf7 47.c4 g4 48.c5 g3 49.c6 g2 50.c7 g1Q 51.c8Q Qe1+ 52.Kd4 Qd2+ 53.Ke5 Qe3+ 54.Kd6 Qxa7

55.Qg4+ Bg6 56.Qxf3 Qb8+ 57.Kc5 Qe5+ 58.Kb6 Qd6+ 59.Ka5 Qc5+ 60.Ka4 Bc2+ 0-1

Gupta,Shikhar (648) - Gibson,Uma (224) [C55]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

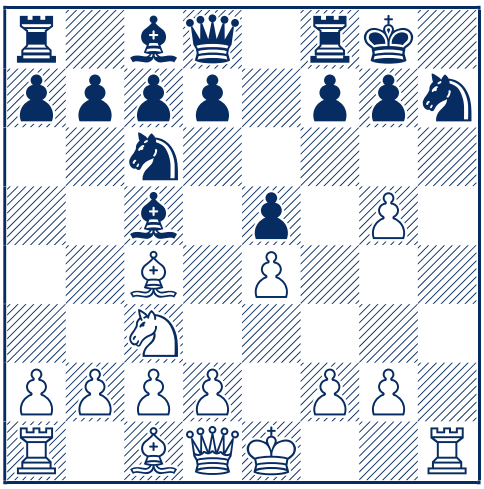
Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bc4 Bc5

Best is Nxe4 (when black has d5 should white recapture on e4), with equality.

5.h3 0-0 6.Ng5 h6 7.h4 hxg5 8.hxg5 Nh7??

The correct move, d5, was tough to find, but there was nothing else that held the balance. The text move allows white a beautiful mating combination of which Shikhar should be proud.



(white to move)

9.Qh5 Re8 10.Qxf7+ Kh8 11.Rxh7+ Kxh7 12.Qh5# 1-0

Horgos,Jamie - Rangan,Keshav (1031) [C56]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

Annotated by John Elmore

1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.d4 d6 5.Bc4 Be6 6.Bxe6 fxe6 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qe2 Nd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Nb5 a6 11.Qc4??

White had played well up to this point, but the knight simply had to be saved. The remainder of the game shows how tough it is to play chess when you're a piece down.

11...axb5 12.Qxb5+ Nd7 13.Bg5 Be7 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.0-0-0 0-0 16.Rxd4 c6 17.Qxb7 Rab8 18.Qxc6 Qf6 19.Qxd7 Rfd8 20.Qa7 Qxd4 21.Qxd4 Rxd4 22.b3 Rbd8 23.Kb2 Rd1 24.Rxd1 Rxd1 25.Ka3 Kf7 26.b4 Ke7 27.Kb3 Kd6 28.a4 and black went on to win. **0-1**

Scott,Bryant - Larson,Ben (975) [B21]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

1.e4 c5 2.d4 cxd4 3.c3 dxc3 4.Nxc3 e5 5.Bc4 Nf6 6.Nf3 d6 7.0-0 g6 8.Bg5 Bg7 9.Nd5 Nbd7 10.Bb5 h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Rc1 0-0 14.a4 Nc5 15.b3 Nxe4 16.Qe1 d5 17.Rc5 Nxc5 18.Nxe5 Nxb3 19.Nxg6 Qxg6 20.Qd1 Nc5 21.Bd3 Nxd3 22.a5 Bg4 23.f3 Bh3 24.Qb3 Qxg2# 0-1

Larouche,Jonathan - Holderness,Ben [C47]

2017 NH Scholastic Team, 08.04.2017

1.Nc3 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.e4 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.a3 0-0 6.b4 Bd4 7.Ne2 Bxa1 8.b5 Nd4 9.c3 Nxe2 10.Bxe2 Bxc3+ 11.Nd2 d6 12.0-0 Bxd2 13.Bxd2 Bd7 14.a4 a6 15.Qb3 axb5 16.axb5 Qe8 17.Be3 Bxb5 18.Rb1 c6 19.f4 exf4 20.Bxf4 Qd7 21.h3 Nxe4 22.dxe4 Bxe2 23.e5 dxe5 24.Bxe5 Bb5 25.Qb4 Rfe8 26.Bd6 Ra4 27.Qc5 b6 28.Qxb6 Qxd6 29.Qxb5 cxb5 30.Rxb5 Ra1+ 31.Kf2 Qf4# 0-1

Upcoming Events

VERMONT-NEW HAMPSHIRE MATCH

September 9, 2017

Courtyard by Marriott, Hanover/Lebanon, 10 Morgan Dr. Lebanon NH 03766

4 Rd. Scheveningen System, G/65;d5 Onsite Entry Only. All players must be residents of Vermont or New Hampshire or students attending school in either of these states. Teams will be broken into three groups of four and each member will play all members of the other team's group. Extra players will play a four round swiss with minimal prizes. EF: $5, free to players rated 2200 and above. Prizes: Traveling Trophy to winning team. Registration 8:45-9:15. Rds: 9:30AM 12:30PM 3:00PM 5:30PM. No byes or withdraws. All players agree to play all rounds. For more information, New Hampshire players contact Gene Tappen etappen@aol.com Vermont players contact Brian Lafferty KingdomChessAssociationLtd@gmail.com. www.relyeachess.com.

http://www.nhchess.org/downloads/VT-NH-Match-Sep2017.pdf

NEW HAMPSHIRE SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

October 21-22, 2017

Courtyard Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, 700 Huse Road, Manchester NH

Grand Prix Points: 10

A state championship event!

4SS, 40/90, SD/30 + 30 Sec. Increment. DOB MUST be included with entry. Open to players born before 22 Oct 1967. EF: $50 postmarked by 14 Oct. $55 at site. $$GTD: $300-200. 50-54 $100, 55-59 $100, 60-64 $100, 65-69 $100, 70-74 $100, 75+ $100. Ages as of 22 Oct. $100 bonus and plaque to top New Hampshire resident. Reg: 9-9:45. Rds: 10-4, 10-4. One ½ point bye rounds 1-3. ENT: Alex Relyea, 49 Technology Dr. #89, Bedford, NH 03110. INFO: Alex Relyea relyea@operamail.com. www.relyeachess.com. HR: $119, 603-641-4900, mention Relyea Chess. NS W.

http://www.nhchess.org/downloads/NH-Senior-Oct2017.pdf

42nd NEW HAMPSHIRE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

November 4, 2017

A Heritage Event!

4SS, G/60 d5. Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd. (exit 4 off Everett Tnpk/Rte. 3), Nashua, NH. 3 Sections: Championship, open to U2100 or Unr. EF: $37 if rec'd by 11/2, $42 at site. $$G: $180-120-60; trophies to top 2, top 2 U1850. Intermediate, open to U1750 or Unr. EF: $37 if rec'd by 11/2, $42 at site. $$G: $130-80-50; trophies to top 2, top 2 U1500. Novice, open to U1350 or Unr. EF: $31 ($26 to jrs. U21) if rec'd by 11/2, $36 at site ($31 jrs. U21). Trophies to top 3, top 2 U1100. All, NHCA membership req'd of rated NH residents; dues $8 adult, $6 under 19. Reg.: 8:30-9:35am Sat. 11/4, Rds.: 10-1:00-3:30-6:00. Bye: All Rds. (except no final Rd. bye in top section), limit 1, must commit before Rd. 2. No half-point byes for players receiving full-point byes. Online advance entry available at www.nhchess.org until 11/3 at 6 PM. Ent: NHCA, c/o Hal Terrie, 377 Huse Rd. #23, Manchester, NH 03103. Info: halterrie@comcast.net; no phone calls.

Spot The Tactic Solutions

#1) Messenger-Schalk, Queen City Tornado:

11...Bxc3 12.bxc3 Qxe4 (or 12.Nxc3 Qxg5)

#2) Wezalis-Cote, Queen City Tornado:

30…g5! 31.Re3 (31.fxg5 Be5 or 31.Qf2 gxf4 32.gxf4 Bh6) 31…Qd2 32.Qxd2 (32.Re2 Qxe1 33.Rxe1 gxf4) 32…Rxd2 33.Re2 Rd3

#3) Kelley-Havener, Queen City Tornado:

12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 (12…gxf6 13.0-0-0 Bd5 14.Nxe6! Bxe6 [14…fxe6 15.Rxd5] 15.Rxd7) 13.Bxd7+ Ke7 (13…Kxd7 14.Qb5+ Kc8 15.Bg5 Qg6 16.Qe8+ Kc7 17.Nb5 mate) 14.Be5 Qg5 15.Bc6

#4) Meehan-Kelley, Queen City Tornado:

30.Rf6! Nxg6 (30…g6 31.Qh4!) 31.Qxg6+ fxg6 32.Rxf8

#5) McManus-Horgos, NH Scholastic Individuals:

11.Nc4+ wins the queen.

#6) Horgos-Larson, NH Scholastic Individuals:

12…Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Qxg5 (This tactic remains on the next move as well)

#7) Terrie-Bradley, NH Closed:

20…Rxe1 [not 20…Qxc3? 21.Re3 Rxe3 22.fxe3 Bd5 23.Qxf6+] 21.Rxe1 Qxc3 22.Qe3 [not 22.Re3?? Qc1+ mates] 22…Qa5

#8) Elmore-Kochman, NH Closed:

24…f6 25.Bd6 Rxd6! 26.cxd6 Bxf4 27.Nf1 Bxd6 28.Qb3 Bxg3 29.Nxg3 Rf7 and Black is up two pawns. White can improve with 26.Re3 Qd5 27.cxd6 Bxf4 28.Nf1 [28.Re2?? Qxd4+] 28…Qxd4 29.Qb3+ Kh8 30.Rd1 Bxe3+ 31.Nxe3 Qc5 32.Kf2 when the passed pawn offers a modicum of compensation.

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